NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER-----FOR THE FARM, FIELD AND FIRESIDE.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

In reply to inquiries, we would say that the FARMER will be sent to all subscribers until a discontinuance is ordered. The date to which payment is made is given on each paper, so that every subscriber can ascertain for himself the time when his subscription ends.

We would also state that our *lowest and only terms* are given on our third page. We have no Club Terms. We have fixed our rates as low as the times will allow, and we give our readers their full money's worth.

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Editorial.

THE WAR WITH INSECTS.

The familiar talk of Dr. Jabez Fisher, of Fitchburg, before the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture, at Hingham, was just such talk as farmers need. It is not long since men who took the trouble to study the habits of insects were looked upon with derision by average farmers. They were often called bugologists, sometimes "naturals," and not seldom fools. Insects have been considered too "small potatoes" to be worthy the serious thought of men of business. We well remember the half humorous, half sarcastic dedicatory stanza, found on the fly leaf of a book received from a friend at the time we first became interested in the study of entomology, running as follows:—

M. ENTOMOLOGUS.

He from all realms together brings
Proboscis, antlers, legs and wings;
For these alone he spends his pains,
His life consumes, his treasure drains,
And leaves his children when he dies
The richest Legacy of Flies!

Possibly there are those who may make collections of insects simply from curiosity, as men sometimes collect old coins, or rare books, or it may be with some a matter of trade or business, as when men deal in minerals, shells, or flowers, but we can hardly see how one can study any branch of natural history, without, in a greater or less degree, making a practical application of the special knowledge they acquire. Were the NEW ENGLAND FARMER to advocate the teaching of entomology in our public schools, most people, farmers no less than others, would look upon the proposition as ridiculous. The idea of spending time in school hours chasing butterflies, or counting the number of stripes or spots on the back of a bug! And yet not a week passes during the growing season that some farmer does not write to the editor of his agricultural journal, for information as to the best method of killing potato bugs, squash bugs, curculios, or other insects by the score or hundred, which injure or destroy his growing crops. Then in winter it is how to kill lice on cattle or poultry, ticks on sheep, or scab on the legs of fowls or the skin of cattle. Just now there is a new pest—new in some localities—the bean weevil, which is destroying the crop after it is stored and supposed to be safe for winter use. The carpet bug is another new arrival which bids fair to torment us almost beyond endurance, as, when carpet pasture is short, he don't object to personal garments of woollen material. The teachings of a few more such unwelcome guests will probably lead us to take the proper measures for acquainting ourselves more intimately with insect habits in general, and those of our friends or foes in particular.

The first insect noticed by Dr. Fisher, in his lecture, was the Colorado potato beetle, *Doryphora decemlineata*, or ten lined beetle. Its habits are now too well known to need description here. The means of destroying him are at present of the first importance. The Doctor had tried many experiments, but had found nothing so cheap or effectual as Paris green mixed with plaster, and sprinkled over the vines during the growing season. One pound of green may be mixed with two hundred pounds of plaster, and be just as destructive as if but half the plaster or less were used. The main point is to get the insects to eat of the poison, a little being as sure to kill as much. In mixing the plaster with the green, he is careful to cover the nose to prevent inhaling the poison; then, by pouring a quantity upon a sheet or other close woven cloth, and letting it roll over and over upon itself, raising first one edge of the sheet and then the other, he has been able to mix the materials very evenly. Simply stirring in a dish is not a thorough method of mixing. Hellebore and some other poisons will destroy the insects, but the expense is one hundred times greater, while the danger from poisoning is no less to the individual applying it. The application need not be made more than two or three times during the season under ordinary circumstances.

In the vineyard he had been somewhat troubled by a steel blue beetle, *Haltica chalybea*, or grape vine flea beetle, an insect that appears early in spring, and amuses himself by eating out the centre of the buds of the vine, at the same time laying eggs for a crop of brown slugs, which, in turn, consume the foliage. As the beetles are found in spring mostly on the outer rows, hand picking, if well followed, will check their ravages, but the work must be done early in the morning while the beetles are less active than at midday. The tent caterpillar which builds its house in our apple trees, though often doing an immense amount of damage when neglected, is one of the most easily managed insects with which the orchardist has to contend. Go over the orchards when the young caterpillars are just coming from the eggs and beginning to spin webs for their nests, and a single stroke of the finger drawn across the nest will roll them out of existence. When they first hatch, a whole colony of two or three hundred may be crushed between the thumb and finger, leaving hardly a stain.

The eggs of the apple tree borer are laid in June and July, and the larvæ are easily destroyed during the first summer, while their work is confined to the bark. After they enter the wood they may be reached by cutting or by inserting a wire, but he had found a piece of whalebone ten inches long, whittled to a point, the best thing to follow them in their crooked paths up the trunk. The rose bug had been a serious enemy to contend with on his grape vines. They also swarm in clover and hay fields, but do most injury to grapes while in bloom, eating the blossoms clean from the future bunches, and thus entirely destroy, in a single hour, the work of a whole year. Here, too, hand picking seems to be the only practicable remedy. He is most successful in destroying them by going through the vineyard early in the morning, and with a dish of water held beneath the bunches, giving the bugs a gentle tap, when they roll up their legs and tumble into the water. Of course it is constant vigilance that wins in this as in most other endeavors in life. The curculio, the Doctor believes, is a blessing, as his work is chiefly performed while the fruit is young and is hanging too thickly on the trees. This insect helps the farmer to thin his fruit, but if allowed to become too numerous they may also become our enemies.

The forest tree caterpillar or fall web worm, which attacks the apple, pear and cherry trees, must be destroyed by searching early and often till their season is past. If taken as soon as hatched, only a few leaves will be injured, but if let alone, whole limbs with their fruit will be rendered worthless, for fruit cannot grow and ripen without leaves. The codling moth, which causes so much wormy fruit during harvest and through the winter, is an enemy every time, as most of his work of thinning fruit is done too late to help the remaining portion of the crop. This year, this insect had attracted but little attention, because there was so great an abundance of fruit that there were not enough worms to go round. The apple crop being extremely light last year, very few of these insects were produced. Next year, with a small crop of apples, we shall find more worms than fruit, as it has been a good year this season for raising the moths. The codling worm moth is, though small, a very beautiful insect. They may be found in spring on the inside of cellar windows, where apples have been stored. Their pupa cases may also be found in the crevices of boxes or barrels that have contained apples, and they may be found abundantly, too, under the rough bark of the trees near where they were reared. Scraping trees at the right season will destroy a great many. The best method he had discovered for trapping this insect is to wrap the trunk of the trees with loosely folded paper, which invites them to form their cocoons therein, and whence they may be removed weekly. In his own orchard he had fifty-seven trees which were treated in this way the past summer, the chrysalides being destroyed every Monday morning. The first week, on the 22d of July, he found less than a hundred, but later he sometimes found as many as two or three hundred. During the season he trapped, in all, 2152 which were counted, and probably as many more not counted, each of which might lay thirty eggs next year, thus checking much mischief for the coming season. He had 175 barrels of good, sound fruit the past summer and autumn, all free from insects, and insects enough have been destroyed to save 120 barrels of apples from being attacked next year. That being the case, it would seem that such work pays.

With all the help of the curculio, he still finds it necessary to thin his fruit artificially, and he showed a little instrument shaped like the fork in the handle of a tack hammer, which, being inserted in the end of a long pole, is used for twisting off the surplus apples and pears. His rule for thinning is to take off every specimen that is wormy or in any way imperfect, then to reduce all clusters to a single specimen, and finally, to cut out from one-half to three-fourths of what remains, and this is the hardest thing to do of all. Pears should not be nearer than six inches apart on the tree, if one would obtain the finest and largest quality of fruit. Young trees, especially, should have their fruit thinned very close, particularly where they are not making much wood. Allowing two or more specimens of apples or pears to touch each other, invites the codling moth to deposit its eggs where the fruit touches, as it is then better protected from accident.

There were many other insects of which he might say something, but as he had designed to discuss only such as he had become personally familiar with, he would not enlarge. In answer to a question, the speaker said that the quince tree borer was similar in its habits to the apple tree borer, but was another species. They should be destroyed in the same way as given for destroying the borer of the apple tree.

The lecture, like all lectures given by Dr. Fisher, was thoroughly practical and understandable to all who listened.

AGRICULTURE OF VERMONT.

The last volume of the defunct Board of Agriculture of the State of Vermont is just received, and after looking it through with more than ordinary care and interest, we can say truly that, if the State Board of Agriculture is dead, it died game, for its last annual report has not been surpassed in value by any of its predecessors. It would be difficult to find 400 pages of agricultural literature containing a more select and varied collection of matter than we find here.

The opening paper by Prof. Wm. H. Brewer, of Yale College, upon the "Principles of Breeding," delivered at a meeting held in Middlebury, is worthy a place in any library, taking as it does the very broadest view of the subject. The subject is continued by A. E. Higley, of Castleton, under the head of "Horse Culture," and remotely by A. B. Pixley, South Royalston, in a paper, and a very excellent one, too, upon the "Treatment of Animals," particularly those sent to market alive over our railroads, where it is no rare thing for a lot of suckling, bleating, starving calves to be detained for two or more days on the route, when the object might be better attained by slaughtering at home, keeping the offal where it is most needed, and delivering the carcasses cool, fresh, and healthy to the city buyers.

The "Needs of the Dairy" are discussed by G. S. Fassett, Enosburg, while "The Dairy Cow" is described by Edmund Whitney, Williston. The subject of Stabling cows is well treated by Byron P. Ruggles, Hartland. E. R. Skinner, of Tunbridge, a man who loves his cows as though members of his family, gives the general treatment of his herd and dairy, from the cow and her feed to the gilt-edged products.

Butter packing on the Pacific coast is discussed by Rev. C. A. Huntington, Olympia, W. T.; Cheese Making by Mrs. Amelia B. Warren, Williston, and J. A. Rouse, of East Berkshire. Mr. E. S. Wood, North Pomfret, tells how he takes care of his herd so as to make an average yield of nearly 300 pounds of butter per year, and Mr. Scott, Craftsbury, tells how he does even better by feeding early cut hay.

L. W. Pitkin, Marshfield, treats upon the subject of forage crops in general, and L. Newton, East Fairfield, the grass crop in particular, while J. C. Sherburne, Pomfret, closes this subject by discussing the value of swales for raising hay. Tree and Fruit culture are the subject of two essays by J. B. Barron, West Concord, and Harmon Morse, East Cambridge. The Sugar Orchard and Sugar Making being of special interest in Vermont, has five essays by L. C. Davis, South Reading, A. M. Foster, Cabot, W. O. Brigham, Bakersfield, C. M. Fisher, Cabot, and the Secretary, Henry M. Seely, Middlebury. Mr. O. Howe, Fayetteville, gives a statistical and historical account of the past and present products of the State, and quotes from what is supposed to be the oldest book on agriculture in the English language, written in the sixteenth century by Sir Anthony Fitzherbert, as follows:—"shepe, in mine opinion, is the most profitablest cattell that any man can have." Edwin Hollister, East Montpelier, gives a paper on Domestic Poultry. "What is Successful Farming?" is asked and answered by E. A. Fisk, Waitsfield, and the professions, so called, are compared with farming by Dr. W. H. Giddings, Bakersfield. J. H. Putnam, Grafton, treats upon some of the causes of the depopulation of our rural districts, while Rev. C. H. Huntington, of Olympia, W. T., discusses the kindred subject of emigration, in which he tells the people of New England that, if well enough off now, they had better remain in New England; that men who are successful farmers here may become so anywhere else, but if, from want of good judgment or a business capacity, they fail here, they cannot expect success in a new home in the West. "How to keep Farm Accounts" is told by Albert Chapman, Middlebury. James O. Adams, Secretary of the New Hampshire Board of Agriculture, gives a paper on "Better Culture." D. K. Simmons, of Manchester, speaks of "Agriculture as a Civilizer," and we wish every farmer could read what he says. Z. E. Jameson, Irasburg, has a paper on "Educated Hands," and Nathan Skinner, Plainfield, one upon "Life and Nourishment." Fertilizers are somewhat slighted, as there is but one treatise on this subject, though a good one, by J. R. Kinerson, of Peacham. E. R. Towle, West Berkshire, gives a list of all the principal manufacturers of agricultural tools and machinery in the State; a valuable paper for reference. The Douglass hay loader is described by Albert Chapman, Middlebury, and Ora Paul, Pomfret, has a paper on home productions.

Dr. Hiram Cutting's illustrated paper on Fungi and Animalcules, as revealed by the microscope, is a standard article and worthy a place in any scientific public document in the country. Mildew, rust, smut and mould are forms of fungi of which we all know far too little, and the same is true of the many small insects treated by the doctor. To afford a glance outside the State, "Canadian Husbandry" is talked of by Sidney Fisher of Alva Farm, Brome Co., Quebec. John W. Chapman, Middlebury, discusses the most profitable varieties of fruits for Vermont, and Albert Chapman contributes a lengthy report on the Improvement of Merino sheep. C. G. Pringle has an illustrated account of that pest among grasses, Danthonia, with instructions as to the means of exterminating or subduing it. The general statistics of the agriculture of the State forms a valuable paper by E. R. Towle. Insects injurious to the crops or animals of Vermont are treated, with numerous illustrations, by Prof. Geo H. Perkins, Professor of Zoology in the Agricultural College. Among the insects whose history and habits are described are the sheep bot fly, the sheep tick, the forest tent caterpillar, currant saw fly, currant borer, currant worm, curculio, pea weevil, pear slug, grape root borer, flea beetle, and many other insects with hard names and harder characters.

A solid paper on plant growth is contributed by Prof. Atwater, of Connecticut, and an exhaustive discussion on milk by F. D. Douglas, Whiting. M. V. B. Hathaway, of Hardwick, enumerates some of the advantages of education to the farmer, and Mrs. T. J. Baker, Johnson, tells something of the vexations of Woman's Work, a kind of work that is never done.

We said there was but one article upon fertilizers, but we had overlooked a valuable paper on this subject by Secretary Seely, who discusses plaster, ashes, and commercial fertilizers generally. Four pages are devoted to the report of the Addison County Bee Keepers' Association (J. E. Cram, Bridport, President) including a paper by J. C. Crane, on the best mode of securing surplus honey. The Vermont Merino Sheep Breeders' Association is also reported, together with a list of breeders with the number of their flocks, as recorded in the authorized register. Of this organization, N. T. Sprague, Jr., Brandon, is President.

The report of the Vermont Dairymen's Association occupies thirty-six pages, and includes the papers read, and a portion of the discussion at the winter meeting held in January last at Milton, of which we gave an extended report at the time in the columns of the NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

Now this array of subjects is treated in a very excellent manner by men who know whereof they speak, and who were drawn out by the organizations for which they labored. And now is it possible that such an amount of work as has been done by the State Board of Vermont, as shown by their last report, has not already paid its cost over and over again in the increased knowledge gained and interest felt in the industry which feeds all?

HORSE RACING AT AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.

The farmers at their clubs and society meetings are discussing the question of fairs pretty freely these winter days and evening. At a recent meeting of the Woodstock, Conn., Farmers' Club, Mr. Wm. B. Lester read an essay from which we cut the following, in relation to horse racing at agricultural fairs:—

We come to consider another phase of our agricultural fairs—the horse trot. This feature has assumed proportions altogether beyond its merits, if indeed, it has any. Why, we may ask, has it been allowed to creep into an agricultural exhibition at all? What difference does it make to us whether a horse can trot a mile in 2:40 or 2:30, or even less time? When we see the amount of time spent, the large outlay for land, track, and other conveniences, besides the large prizes offered, we are astonished. Some of the societies offer as high as $1250 premiums. When we consider another fact in relation to this matter—this premium does not go to the person who may chance to raise the horse, but the man who by chance or otherwise comes into possession of him.

This is a small matter to the other and greater consideration—the worth of education. We are educating our young men in the wrong direction; no wonder they become tired of the old farm house, and also the old farm itself, and leave in hopes of being able to gratify their tastes in an easier manner. But are we to become a great horse racing community? One would think so if he were to attend one of our fairs on horse-day. It is the chief day, and the one of greatest attendance, and one I may say that will sooner or later cripple, if not destroy our agricultural fairs. But, it may be said, the horse is a noble animal and we should have a chance to develop him; but I see no reason why he should be trained to the detriment of other interests; when there are tracks in all parts of the country expressly for the training of horses, these should be sufficient. I know it is said it pays, and we cannot do without it. This argument might be good in many other things; we might introduce the Spanish bull fight, or the more disgraceful fighting of other animals; they might be made to pay, but I hardly think we should consent to see them introduced into this country. Horse racing is near akin to these sports of the old world, and should be held in check, or we may, at no distant day, be willing to see the others also. If we must have sports in order to get the money, let us be more manly and introduce the athletic sports of the old Romans, and at least we will have the satisfaction of knowing that we have developed muscle and endurance in that most noble of all animals, man. We should not treat this most serious subject in a light or trifling manner, for I know a great many of the most thoughtful men take the same view of the subject. It is a growing evil and should have the serious consideration of all well wishers of our country.

During the discussion which followed the reading of the essay, Mr. Bowditch took sides with the horse, although he thought if the managers of agricultural fairs would get up something useful, like the "barn lecture," at Haverhill, where Dr. Nichols showed the farmers how to make superphosphate, he would be willing to let the horse trot go; to which Mr. Fox humorously replied that if some of the old horses we see on the track could be made up into superphosphate, it would be much better for the farmer, for it is all the benefit they can ever be to agriculture.

The Secretary, Dr. Bowen, took a middle ground, claiming that if our fairs are held for the pleasure of the masses, then the horse trot is advisable, as that is what attracts the largest crowd, but if the object of the fair is to benefit agriculture, then the trotter has no place on the track, for a farmer who finds he has a 2.20 horse will not long own his farm.

COOKED FOOD FOR STOCK.

A correspondent writing from near Providence, R. I., would like to bring to the notice of the readers of the FARMER a certain kind of cooked food, prepared and for sale by a company organized for the purpose of cooking and selling food to farmers and others; but as his advertisement is in the form of a communication, and is received with no special orders as to the amount of space desired, the number of times it shall be inserted, nor indeed, any order or instructions whatever, we can hardly feel authorized to publish it, even though the writer is quite anxious to benefit his brother farmers.

It is claimed for this food that it causes a saving of thirty per cent. of the nutriment contained in grain, but as the cost to the purchaser is admitted to be enhanced thirty per cent., we are a little too dull to see where the profit is to come in. It is also claimed that uncooked food produces colic in horses, but as we have given it for twenty or thirty years, with scarcely a case of colic, we can hardly see the great hurry for a change to cooked food on that account. However, if our correspondent will state his case exactly, and prepare his article for insertion in our advertising columns, he can have the opportunity of bringing this new food to the notice of a discerning public, in a manner which shall be just to the publishers of the FARMER and profitable to the advertiser.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

RHODE ISLAND.—At the annual meeting of the Rhode Island Society for the Encouragement of Domestic Industry, Jan. 15, the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year:—President, Obadiah Brown; Vice Presidents, Amasa Sprague, A. B. Chadsey, Elisha A. Lawton; Finance Committee, William Viall, William B. Rider, E. Dyer, Jr.; Secretary and Treasurer, Joseph S. Pitman. The treasurer's report shows that the society begin the year with a balance of $83.67 on hand. After considerable debate it was voted to hold a fair the coming autumn.

NO. KENNEBEC, ME.—The North Kennebec Agricultural Society have chosen the following officers: President, Hall C. Burleigh, Fairfield; Vice Presidents, Ira E. Getchell, Vassalboro', Joseph Percival, Waterville; Trustees, Martin Blaisdell, Waterville, Stephen C. Watson, Waterville, William H. Pearson, Vassalboro', S. I. Abbott, Waterville; Secretary, J. M. Garland, Waterville; Treasurer and Agent, J. G. Soule, Waterville; Librarian, D. R. Wing, Waterville.

KENNEBEC, ME.—The old Kennebec Ag. Society held its annual meeting at Readfield. Mr. Geo. A. Russell, Secretary for the past nine years, declined re-election. The following officers were chosen: President, John E. Brainard, E. Winthrop; Secretary, J. B. Low, Readfield; Vice Presidents, S. Kilbreth, Manchester, George Keith, Fayette, D. R. Sampson, Readfield; Treasurer and Librarian, C. H. Stevens, Readfield; Trustees, J. P. Carson, Mt. Vernon, Rutilius Alden, Winthrop, G. M. True, Wayne, D. R. Sampson, Readfield, C. H. Bamford, Fayette; Agent and Collector, S. G. Fogg, Readfield.

PISCATAQUIS CENTRAL, ME.—At the annual meeting of the Piscataquis Central Agricultural Society, the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: A. M. Robinson, President; E. A. Thompson, Seth Lee, Vice Presidents; D. W. Brockway, Secretary and Treasurer; Leonard Robinson, Foxcroft, Wm. McComb, Foxcroft, Obed Towne, Dover, Joseph Morrill, Sebec, Leonard Knowlton, Sangerville, Trustees.

PENOBSCOT, ME.—The following are the officers elected for the ensuing year: President, A. W. McMahon, of Eddington; Vice Presidents, C. M. Freeman, Veazie, O. Rogers, Oldtown, Charles Copeland, Holden; Secretary and Treasurer, B. A. Burr; Trustees, E. H. Gregory, Hampden, H. M. Smith, Orrington, C. A. Fawcett, Glenburn, H. C. Mayo, Hampden, H. H. Page, Orono.

WALDO AND PENOBSCOT, ME.—The following are the officers elect for the ensuing year: J. W. Wallace, President; A. K. Fletcher, Vice President; E. H. Neally, Secretary; F. L. Palmer, Treasurer; C. A. McKenney, F. W. Litchie, Eli West, W. Pierce, A. E. Nickerson, E. L. Tasker, Isaac Reynolds, Amos Whitney and Chas. Croxford, Trustees. The Society voted to extend an invitation to all the towns in Waldo and Penobscot counties to compete for premiums.

PISCATAQUOG VALLEY, N. H.—The second annual meeting of this Society was held at Goffstown, Jan. 15, and George A. Wasson of New Boston was elected President; Arthur Taggart of Goffstown, Secretary; and John M. Parker, Treasurer. The Society is enlarging its sphere of operation and is in a flourishing condition.

MISCELLANEOUS.—The Vermont State Society, through its committee, have about decided to hold the annual fair at Montpelier, for the next three years, if the citizens of that place will contribute $2000 for furnishing and fitting convenient grounds with suitable buildings to accomodate the society. Bradford is understood to be the second choice of the committee on location, and Bradford has already offered to give furnished grounds.

The Franklin County, Mass., Agricultural Society at its special meeting on the 21st, voted not to have the second day of the fair a benefit day. There was a spirited debate on the question, but the vote stood sixty to twenty-four. The trustees were instructed to invite the members in their respective towns to contribute towards paying off the debt.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK TRADE.—The Union Stock Yard and Transit Company of Chicago, have just issued their thirteenth annual report. As this is one of the largest centres for the stock trade, the statistics are very interesting. The total receipts for the last five years have been as follows:—

	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.	Horses.
1878	1,083,068	6,339,654	310,420	9,415
1877	1,033,151	4,925,979	310,240	7,874
1876	1,096,745	4,190,006	364,095	8,159
1875	920,843	3,912,110	418,948	11,346
1874	843,966	4,258,379	333,655	17,568

The total shipments during the same time were as follows:—

	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.	Horses.
1878	699,108	1,266,906	156,727	8,176
1877	703,402	961,221	155,334	6,398
1876	707,724	1,131,635	195,925	6,839
1875	696,534	1,582,643	243,604	11,129
1874	622,029	2,330,361	180,555	16,608

The total receipts for the past thirteen years have been 8,949,724 cattle, 40,534,632 hogs, 4,005,480 sheep, 102,142 horses, valued at $1,047,955,660. Total shipments for the past thirteen years—6,375,516 cattle, 16,780,954 hogs, 1,760,257 sheep and 91,757 horses. The business last year was the largest on record.

SALE OF HEREFORDS.—The Waterville *Mail* says that Mr. Wm. P. Blake, of West Waterville, recently sold his entire herd of Herefords with the exception of one bull—eight animals—for $1350—three of them being calves; and Mr. Hall C. Burleigh, of Fairfield Centre, sold a heifer calf, same breed, nine months old, to the same parties, for $300. This stock goes to Illinois. The same parties also bought six animals of Mr. Chas. H. Atkins, of Mercer, including a pair of steers for which they paid $300.

AYRSHIRE STOCK BREEDERS.—The Ayrshire Breeders' Association met at Utica, N. Y., last week. It was voted to drop from the herd book the names of animals whose pedigree is not traced directly to importation. Wm. Birnie of Springfield was elected President; Obadiah Brown of Providence, Samuel Campbell of New York Mills, Vice Presidents; J. H. W. French of North Andover, Secretary; J. F. Brown of Providence, Treasurer.

Correspondence.

For the New England Farmer.

NEW HAMPSHIRE AGRICULTURE.

Farmers' Meeting at Concord, N. H.

According to previous notice, a farmers' meeting was held at Concord, N. H., Jan. 7 and 8, 1879. The weather was all that could be desired—cool and sharp, with fair sleighing. The snow of the previous Thursday had covered the thin places, and there seemed no reason why there should not have been a fuller attendance. The sessions opened with an average attendance of about fifty, but by the time of closing it reached about one hundred. No doubt many city people were drawn away by numerous other entertainments that were in progress, but every farmer within reach should have made an effort to be present. Most of the papers were very practical in their character, and were listened to with close attention by those present. I give the programme.

TUESDAY, Jan. 7.

Forenoon. 10.30—Address by Mayor Brown.
10.45—Response by Chairman Humphrey.
11—"Out of the Ruts," by J. W. Sanborn.
Afternoon. 2—Remarks by Gov. elect Natt Head.
2.30—Sheep Husbandry by Dr. C. F. Kingsbury, of Lyme, followed by a discussion.
Evening. 7—Replies to questions.
7.30—Address by Bishop Niles.
8.15—Address by Prof. J. W. Patterson.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 8.

Forenoon. 10—Grass Culture by Geo. K. Harvey, of Surry, followed by a discussion.
11.30—Lecture on Meteorology by S. D. Lord, Esq., Manchester.
Afternoon. 2—Fertilizers for Corn, by Prof. W. O. Atwater, Middletown, Conn.
Evening. 7—Cultivation of Small Fruits, W. H. Hills, Plaistow.
8—Brief addresses by invited guests, members of the Board, and others.

Mayor Brown said that the nearest he ever came to being a farmer, was that he was a farmer's son, and worked on the home farm till it was time for him to go out into the world to earn himself a home, and to acquire a competence. He alluded to the conveniences that the farmers now have, compared with those enjoyed by our forefathers. When corn was introduced from Virginia, the farmer had to carry the grain to Boston to have it ground.

He was responded to by the chairman of the Board, whose remarks contained encouragement and good advice for the farmers. While farming was the oldest occupation, dating back to the foundation of the world, still there was always something new to learn, and any one who was interested could find something to say. To increase our enthusiasm we need to read up—read and digest—all the good agricultural books and papers that we can find, attend meetings like these, and mingle and talk with each other, drawing out and comparing experience.

He then directed his remarks to the work of the Board, and said that it was trying to elevate the farmer; to make him feel the importance of his calling, and to realize that the man makes the calling, not the calling the man. The farmer should so adorn his home that the boys will remain to be guided and benefited by home influences, for the influences in the quiet home of the farmer were far more potent in establishing the good character of the young man than the usual influences of the city, where, with the round of calls and visiting, there is too little chance for quiet home life.

The speaker then gave statistics of the agricultural crops of New Hampshire, the year after the Board was organized, and compared them with those of 1877.

Hay—1871	550,000 tons	on 551,000	acres.
1877	715,000 "	" 650,000	"
Corn—1871	1,276,000 bu.	on 356,058	"
1877	2,400,000 "	" 566,780	"
Wheat—1871	180,000 "	" 12,436	"
1877	220,000 "	" 12,941	"
Potatoes—1871	387,800 "	" 21,671	"
1877	440,000 "	" 40,000	"

Mr. Humphrey said he thought these results were highly gratifying, and that the Board had been a large factor in producing them.

The Chairman then introduced Mr. Sanborn, the member from Belknap county, but who is now in charge of the college farm at Hanover, as a gentleman that worked all day and figured all night.

Mr. Sanborn said that the subject assigned him was not one of his own selection, but was suggested by a farmer asking at one of the Board meetings "what farmers should do to get out of the ruts?" If the farmers of the past adopted that course of farming which at the time was most profitable, it was no sign that we should always follow on without looking to see if we could not find a still more profitable way. There is constant change, and it is true of America that

"Beneath our starry arch
Nought resteth or is still,
But all things hold their march
As if by one great will.
Move one—move all!
Hark to the foot fall!
On, on, ever!"

Railroads have traversed the Continent, and brought Chicago nearer to Boston than Gilmanton. That is, it does not cost so much now to carry freight from Chicago to Boston as it does to carry it from Gilmanton to Boston. While he was not one of those who are forever complaining that farming don't pay, yet he did not think that it was yielding to most farmers the profits that it should. "How shall we get out of the ruts?" "How shall we remedy this difficulty?"

1st. *Increase the acreage of hoed and grain crops.* I am aware, said the speaker, that this is contrary to the advice of most people, but I regard it as one of the essentials of the plan that I am going to follow to get out of the ruts. One-half of the area of England is under hoed and grain crops, while in New Hampshire about one-sixth only is in such crops. I had rather have crops that I can sell directly, than those which I must sell indirectly, in the form of beef. My favorite crop is potatoes, because of every hundred pounds that I sell, seventy is water. I would also sell wheat, because it costs no more to grow a bushel of wheat than it does to grow a bushel of corn, and it will sell for twice as much.

2d. More thorough cultivation. He then referred to the Louis Weldon system of husbandry or the raising of fair crops, year after year, without any manure, and by tillage alone. There are elements in the soil that plants want, but they are not available. By cultivation, the soil is exposed to the atmosphere, and the air will break down those particles.

How shall we Increase the Yield per Acre?

1st. Buy grain for feeding, as the more capital a farmer uses the more successful he should be. Feed the food to the *young* pig to make pork and manure. He has made pork this year at a cost of three and one-half cents per pound live weight. He has found by repeated weighings that, as the pig increased in age, it takes more food to make a pound of pork; therefore endeavor to mature your pigs at six months old.

2d. Buy food to feed to the young steer; would buy nitrogenous food, like shorts and cotton seed meal. Feed these foods with your poor fodder, because most fodder has plenty of carbo-hydrates, and these supply the albuminoids. Then the manure is more valuable; that from cotton seed meal being worth twice as much as that from corn meal. Would mature the steer in twenty-four or thirty months. I have steers weighing one thousand pounds that are doing as well on corn buts and four pounds of cotton seed meal as are others on my best hay.

In reply to a question, if he would feed it to young heifers intended for cows, he said he should not want to give them much. He wanted to force a steer along as fast as he could, but he did not care to force a heifer, only keep her in a good growing condition.

3d. Buy chemicals and mix them yourself. Study your land, experiment with different elements, and then mix them in the proportions required by your crop and land. His experience showed that they had paid handsomely on well selected crops. Would advise no man to buy chemical fertilizers unless he could buy intelligently, and apply intelligently.

Mr. Sanborn spoke without notes, but had the figures to back all his statements. He spoke for over an hour, and held the attention of his audience till the close, and I think all went away feeling that he combined theory with practice.

AFTERNOON.

The afternoon session found about seventy-five in attendance. After a few off-hand remarks by Gov. elect Head, Dr. Kingsbury commenced by saying that the Yankee does everything for pay. They do nothing unless in some way they expect a reward. The farmer should follow that branch of husbandry that will pay him best. I think there is no branch of farming that pays so well as sheep husbandry, except gardening, and that can be followed only by those in the vicinity of large villages and cities. On the Connecticut river, those who are engaged in sheep husbandry are the most prosperous, while in many of the back towns nearly all who are inependent have obtained it by this business. How shall we commence so as to have sheep husbandry pay? 1st. We must have a good shepherd. 2d. We must have good sheep.

What are the requisites of a good shepherd? He must have a keen eye, correct observation, care and patience. Many things are to be taken into the account in managing a flock of sheep. We must consider the wool, and not only the quantity, but the quality. It must be even, so that the manufacturer will buy it. A quick, nervous man, who is at war with all creation, and whose care of his sheep begins and ends by forking out the hay to them, will never be a successful shepherd. The tamer the sheep, the better the returns we shall receive.

The Doctor then gave a description of what he called a good sheep of the fine wools. It must have a good constitution. I would have a clean, white nose; would not have a large head, for it was sometimes a cause of trouble at parturition. A round neck, good square shoulder, neck to fill out the shoulders and not leave a place that a horse collar would fit; leg from the knee large and flat; body barrel shaped; ribs well sprung; wide, long hips, and a square back. Such a sheep, in the care of a good shepherd, will not fail to make good returns. After we have a good flock, keep them so by good breeding. I am no friend to the folds, while I would not object to a few round the neck and flank; the wool is not so even, and the buyers will not give so much for it. Do not want sheep that are all grease, it is sure to ruin their constitution. I do not care how black a fleece is on the outside, but when I open it I want it to look like cotton, and the skin to look red with health.

Winter Management.

He would especially impress upon his hearers the importance of exercise. He cited numerous examples of evil results in the flocks of those who gave no exercise. Likes clover hay, because it contains so much nitrogen. Timothy was the poorest kind of hay for a sheep. They will do well on swale hay and some grain. Would feed different kinds of grain for different purposes. To fat, feed corn. For wool and lambs, oats and shorts are better, because they contain more nitrogen, and that enters largely into the composition of wool; then it is better milk-producing food.

Washing and Shearing.

It is best not to wash, for it hurts the sheep and the man; but if you wash, handle them carefully. Shear—not the skin—but the wool. Would advise building a shed in the pasture, in which to salt them, and under which they could run in cold storms. To-day is the time to start in the business, for sheep are low. We are going to get sixty cents for our wool before long. The price of wool in this State for the past forty years has averaged over forty cents a pound.

EVENING.

Owing to the illness and absence of Bishop Niles, the Secretary spoke on "How plants grow and what is essential to their growth." His remarks were cut short by the chairman introducing Prof. Patterson, of Hanover, who spoke for an hour on "The present drift of American Agriculture, as an industry." His point was that the decline of the old countries of the world was owing to their false system of agriculture, and to cutting down the forests.

Are we not travelling in the same road? Our soil in the west is becoming impoverished. No soil can stand the system of farming pursued by the western farmer. We are sending abroad ten per cent. of our crops; think of the amount of fertility carried out of the country. A man may sell the clothes off his back and make money by it; but how long can he do it? 232,000 tons of ammonia are sent off in wheat every year.

Americans are a wasteful people. Think of the amount of fertilizing material that is carried off in the sewers. It is said that 150,000 people could be supported by the sewerage of London, and I presume the sewers of the United States carry off an equal amount of plant food. The speaker laid great stress upon the evils that result from cutting off the forests. Years ago the climate of Asia Minor was beautiful—all that one could wish; now, how changed. You will see that America is following in her footsteps, when I tell you that, since 1835, 7,600,000 acres or 11,400 square miles of wood have been cut off in North and South America. Our home markets are made by mills run by water, and that is what we want. One shoemaker and blacksmith in every village in the United States would consume more than we send abroad. Have we not already cut off enough wood to influence the rain fall? Any way, mills that once were run by water have had to put in an engine to help them over the "dry spell." Land that was flowed a few years ago, on the Mississippi river, is now high and dry. We have many advantages over many other countries of the world. Are we to hold them? Not unless we keep up the fertility of the soil and preserve our forests.

Prof. Patterson is one of the best speakers in the State, and held the attention of the audience till the close, and while all would agree with him in most of his statements, some would question his main point—that we must let the forests alone.

This address closed what your reporter considers one of the best farmers' meetings that he ever attended. A report of the second day's session will be forwarded soon.

A. H. C.

For the New England Farmer.

NOTES FROM MY APIARY.—No. II.

In continuation of the subject discussed in a former paper, it may be proper to give here a few remarks about the brood of the honey bee. A garden bee in the working months, May, June and July, is capable of laying from one to two thousand eggs per day, which will produce queens, workers or drones, according to the care bestowed on the larva or "grub" by the mature bees, and the condition and shape of the cells in which the egg was deposited. If you examine the comb in a bee hive you will find cells of a cylindrical shape in an upright position; these are queen cells, and they differ from those in which the workers or drones are hatched, as these last are built in a horizontal position. Among the horizontal cells you will find some larger than the others; these are the drone cells, and should not be found in the centre of the hive; but, if found there, and you use the movable frame h

New England Farmer.

BOSTON:
SATURDAY, FEBUARY 1, 1879.

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REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Foreign advices report the continuance of the labor troubles—strikes and reduction of wages in England. Severe cold and great destitution are reported. A story of a piratical craft off the English coast lacks confirmation. The U. S. S. Constitution has been libelled for salvage, the owners of the tug which pulled her off the shoal not being satisfied with the sum offered. A war with the Zulus of South Africa is imminent. Teisserence de Bort has resigned the ministry of agriculture and commerce in the French cabinet. A bill has been introduced making primary education obligatory in France. The budget for 1880 shows an estimated surplus of receipts. Paris is snowbound, and the weather has been severe on the continent The German Minister of finance declares any reform of taxation impossible at present. In anticipation of the spread of the plague in Russia, Germany is preparing to establish a military cordon of 80,000 men on the frontier. A conference has been held at Vienna, to consider measures against the spread of the plague. It was imported by Cossacks from the war in Turkey, and is rapidly spreading in the north and east of Russia. The Spanish Government has ordered a war vessel to San Domingo to demand reparation for an insult to the Spanish flag. An Egyptian National Bank has been formed at Alexandria, with an English board of directors. There has been no further fighting in Afghanistan, but the British troops have made an advance. England is said to have bargained for the purchase of Cyprus. A definitive treaty with Russia has been submitted to the Sultan. Other items of interest are given in our summary.

Wednesday morning's dispatches report another crisis in France, and intense excitement n Paris.

South American advices state that a majority of the people of Venezuela have revolutionized in favor of Guzman Blanco. Puerto Cabello was in possession of the revolutionists on the 3d instant, the government forces holding the fort. At that time the steamer Bolivar was assisting in shelling the town, and many lives and much property had been destroyed.

In Congress there has been little done, the past week. The army and postal appropriation bills have been reported in the House. They call for some $2,000,000. The Senate has passed the naval and consular appropriation bills.

The Massachusetts Legislature seems to be progressing favorably, and are ahead of their work as compared with last year. The House has taken up the bill for reducing legislative salaries, and it appears likely to pass materially as it came from the Senate. The abolition of the Executive Council is proposed. The bill concerning trustee process has been rejected. There is now, if no unforeseen delay occurs, a fair prospect of a short session.

The Governor has signed the bill repealing the State aid law—the first bill to which he has placed his name as Governor. It saves the State about $2500 a day.

The Maine Legislature proposes to reduce the salaries of State officers. The remaining State lands are to be disposed of on easy terms.

What next? Here is Massachusetts shipping young cod to Washington—to stock the fishing preserves of Congress we presume. It is well that we have found a way to compensate for the heavy draft upon the natural supply.

No case was established against John F. Arnold, which we are glad to report, as the accusation was a damaging one.

Secretary Sherman has sold over 136 millions of the four per cent. bonds since Jan. 1, and calls for another forty millions of fivetwenties. We fear the passage of the pension bill will interfere with the refunding of the 6 per cents.

The annual meetings of the Maine Dairymen and Maine Board of Agriculture are close at hand, and should be fully attended.

The United States Supreme Court, Monday, sustained the opinion of the court of claims in the five per cent. case of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, holding that the company cannot deduct the interest on its bonds from its net earnings.

A despatch from Fort Robinson, Nebraska, states that Captain Wessells with four companies of cavalry attacked the fugitive Cheyennes on the 22d, and a desperate fight ensued. The Indian loss was twenty-three killed and six wounded, the only Indians left alive. The troops had three men killed and two wounded—Capt. Wessells slightly.

We were visited by a heavy gale, Saturday night, after a spell of quite warm weather, and it was followed by a fall in temperature. Tuesday was quite warm, and Wednesday clear and warm.

MAINE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

The annual meeting of the Maine Board of Agriculture will be held at the Town Hall in Orono, February 18, 19, and 20. The following list of topics and speakers is announced :—

The Weeds of Culture, by Samuel Wasson of East Surry; Mixed or Special Husbandry for Maine Farmers, by D. A. Wadlin, Belfast; Root Culture, and the Management of the Root Crop, by D. J. Briggs, South Turner; Butter Making in Winter, by S. T. Floyd, Winthrop; On Reclaiming Waste Land, by Samuel Kennedy of Whitefield; The Advantages of Special Farming, by J. O. Keyes, North Jay; The Practical Farmer and his relations to the State, by W. W. Harris of Portland; Farm Experiments at the State College, by Prof. M. C. Fernald of Orono; The Feeding of Domestic Animals, by Dr. E. Lewis Sturtevant, South Framingham, Mass.; The Form of Animals with reference to Feeding Qualities, by Dr. Manly Miles of Lansing, Michigan—to be illustrated by stereopticon views; Fertilizers and Fertilizer Laws, by W. H. Jordan, B. S., Middletown, Conn.

Half of one day will be devoted to an examination of the State Agricultural College, and an attendance on the recitations of the students. The railroads centreing at Bangor will make a reduction in their fairs to all attending the meeting.

HATCHING COD.—We understand that the Fish Commission, at Gloucester, are meeting with gratifying success in hatching codfish. They had some 3,000,000 young fry in tanks last week, ready to be committed to the waters of the harbor. An attempt will be made to transport some of the young fish to Washington, great care being taken of them on the way, and the first lot of 20,000 were started on the 24th. Mr. Earle, an attache of the commission, accompanied the fish to Boston. The success of the experiment of hatching cod affords much satisfaction to Professor Baird, and gives the United States the credit of being the pioneer in the artificial hatching of deep-sea fish. The successful apparatus was invented by Captain Chester, late mate of the Polaris, who has charge of the works in Gloucester.

MR. ARNOLD DISCHARGED.—John Arnold of Pittsfield, the "Butler" candidate for Lieutenant Governor, who was arrested, charged with obtaining money under false pretences, was discharged on Wednesday, 22d, the prosecution failing to establish a case against him.

VERMONT DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this Association was held at Montpelier on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of last week. The opening session had a limited attendance, but at subsequent meetings there were larger audiences. On the first day, the Secretary, O. S. Bliss, read a very interesting paper, prepared by J. M. Hale of Georgia, on "Making and Packing Butter." Thomas Whitaker of Needham, Mass; read an excellent paper on "The Exhaustion and Renovation of Soils." Secretary Bliss read a paper on the manufacture and marketing of butter and cheese, prepared by F. B. Thurber, a prominent dealer in dairy products in New York city; also a paper prepared by the same person on "Butter Manufacture in Foreign Countries." This paper was read before the American Dairymen's Association and called for here.

The second day there was some sharp criticism of the recent legislation abolishing the State Board of Agriculture, Colonel N. T. Sprague, of Brandon, defending the act of the Legislature. Dr. Noah Cressy of Amherst, Mass., spoke at considerable length upon the question of the formation of cows for butter making, favoring the Alderney breed.

The Association was addressed in the afternoon by Hon. J. Gregory Smith of St. Albans, who gave vivid descriptions of the methods of farming in England, Ireland and on the Continent, and spoke in the most feeling terms in regard to Ireland. He said that everything shows a terrible oppression in this beautiful Isle and its inhabitants were subjected by absent landlords. He gave an interesting statement of experimenting with unslacked lime ploughed into soil originally barren, showing it to be an excellent fertilizer. Prof. W. O. Atwater of Middletown, Conn., delivered a very instructive address upon the chemical properties of various kinds of food, illustrating his discourse with charts.

The evening session opened with a paper upon "Homes and Home Life," taking up every country and age, and leading hearers through homes in each and drawing from them an idea what true homes should be. Dr. Strongitham of Liverpool, England, read a paper on palm nut meal, recommending it in favor of linseed oil cake.

On Friday, Col. F. W. Baker, of New York, read a paper on the manufacture of butter. The meetings are considered as having been very successful, both in attendance and in diffusing valuable knowledge among the Vermont dairymen.

MAINE TEMPERANCE CONVENTION.

The State Temperance Convention was held at Augusta, Jan. 22 and 23, and was largely attended. A debate showed that it is generally believed the liquor law is strong enough, but it needs more vigilant enforcement. A society was formed called the "Maine State Temperance Society," and a constitution governing the same adopted. It is to hold its regular session at the State capital. Joshua Nye of Augusta was chosen President, L. W. Starbird of East Dixmont Secretary and D. W. Lelacheur of Biddeford Treasurer. On the second day, Governor Garcelon, who had been chosen President of the present convention, appeared and made a speech in favor of not only doing away with alcoholic liquors, but also opium, tobacco and other practices that lead directly to the use of drink.

Some very strong resolves were adopted, among them, expressing firm conviction of the righteousness of the principle of prohibition; that scientific investigation had proved that alcohol is not essential, even as a medicine; recognizing the evil of liquor agencies and calling for a more strict supervision; calling for legislative enactment against transportation of liquors into the State by public carriers; and calling upon Congress by a constitutional amendment to forever prohibit the importation, manufacture and sale of alcoholic drinks.

THE NEW PENSION BILL.

On Saturday last, the President signed the pension arrearages bill. A Washington dispatch says :—

The Commissioner of Pensions will issue an order at once to pensioners prescribing rules for the collection of these pensions. They are to forward their applications by mail, and in no case to employ claim agents. He estimates the amount required for the payment of claimants now on the roll at $30,-500,000, and as much more for the additional claims which will now be made. There is one point in the bill which, it is thought, will probably be referred by the Interior Department for the construction to the Department of Justice. The new law says that the arrearages of pensions will be paid at the rate of which soldiers were originally pensioned, as Congress has changed the rate several times, and the latest applicants have originally received the largest pensions, the man who gets pensioned now gets a heavy sum in coin arrearages. The totally disabled man originally got $8 per month, and now gets $72. The question then, in a case of a totally disabled new pensioner, is whether he should be paid arrearages at the rate of $72 or $8 per month. The Commissioner will ask Congress at once for an appropriation to carry out the law, and that it be made immediately available. The additional evidence needed in the cases of those now receiving pensions will be very slight. The Commissioner will ask a small increase of clerks, and that the present pension agencies be re-districted without an increase of force.

Some estimate the amount which will be required to carry out the bill as high as $150,-000,000, but it is as yet too early to make any reliable estimate.

BOSTON MUSEUM.—Mr. Barrett opened the week with *"Harebell; or, the Man o' Airlie,"* a play that is rarely equalled for purity and faithfulness to nature. Mr. Barrett's impersonation of the hero is, if anything, even better than a year ago, and large and sympathetic audiences plainly evinced their appreciation both of play and artist. Mr. Warren and Miss Clarke, in their respective parts, showed some fine acting, and Miss Georgia Tyler made a favorable impression. Thursday evening, Mr. Barrett repeats, for the last time *"Richelieu;"* Friday evening and Saturday afternoon he appears in Bulwer's *"Lady of Lyons;"* and Saturday evening *"Damon and Pythias."* On Monday next will be presented *"A New Play,"* by W. D. Howells.

BOSTON PRODUCE EXCHANGE.—The first annual reunion and dinner of this association, which is composed of representatives of all the leading produce houses in Boston, was held at Young's Hotel on Wednesday evening of last week, Jan. 22. Some 200 were present, and the occasion was one of much enjoyment. After doing ample justice to an excellent bill of fare, speeches were made by Alderman O'Brien, Speaker Wade, of the House of Representatives, Alderman Slade, Mr. Freeman J. Doe, and others, and the festivities were maintained till a late hour. The success of the reunion was largely owing to the committee of arrangements, and it was unanimously decided to hold a similar festival annually.

REFUNDING THE DEBT.—On Friday, 24th, Secretary Sherman issued the 84th call for the redemption of 5-20 bonds of 1865, consols of 1867. The call is for $20,000,000, of which $10,000,000 are coupon and $10,000,000 registered bonds. The principal and interest will be paid at the Treasury on and after the 24th of April next, and interest will cease on that day. Another call of the same amount was made on Tuesday.

MAINE DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION.—This Association will hold its winter meeting at Winthrop in the Town Hall, Feb. 12 and 13. Among the attractions offered will be an address by Mr. Robert M. Adams of Utica, N. Y., who is a well-known cheese manufacturer and buyer. Many of the best dairymen in the State will be present and a very interesting session is anticipated.

THE STATE AID LAW.—The first bill which Gov. Talbot has signed is the one repealing the soldiers' aid law of 1878– a bill which will save the State about $2500 per day—and the Secretary of the Commonwealth will at once notify the town and city authorities throughout the State.

MASS. PRESS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting and festival of this association is fixed for Tuesday, Feb. 18, and will be held at the Revere House.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE MAGAZINES.

Harper's Monthly for February is specially noteworthy for the excellence of its numerous illustrations. T..e leading article, one of great interest, treats of the "Treasures of the Deep,"—the animal and plant life of the ocean which are made tributary to commerce. S. G. W. Benjamin contributes the concluding paper on travels in Southern France. A biographical sketch of the late Admiral Paulding, by his son-in-law, Com. Meade, is of much interest. M. Mauris gives some information about Brazil, or that part which includes the valley of the Amazon. F. G. Mather writes of the winter sports of Canada; E. Mason concludes his papers on the old Flemish masters, with specimens of their works, and next month a similar series on the Dutch masters will begin with a paper on Rembrandt; Horace E. Scudder gives, in "Education by Hand," a description of the methods followed at the Boston Institute of Technology. The above are illustrated. Will Carleton has an illustrated poem, O ur Travelled Parson," and John Esten Cooke, in "Moonshiners," gives a vivid picture of life among the illicit distillers in West Virginia. Mrs. Craik, better known as Miss Mulock, begins a new story in this number, "Young Mrs. Jardine," which opens with much promise. "Mendlessohn's Letters to Madame Moscheles" will be of interest to all musical readers. Among the other articles in this number are "French Farmers," by Phebe Earle Gibbons; a story of the plague, by Rebecca Harding Davis; and poems by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps and Helen W. Ludlow. The Editorial departments maintain their usual excellence and variety.

A special cover for *Scribner's Monthly* calls attention to the fact that it is the "Midwinter" number, and its illustrations and literary attractions are equal to any previous issue. It opens with a portrait of Ralph Waldo Emerson by Wyatt Eaton. A very interesting paper on the "Homes and Haunts of Emerson" by Frank B. Sanborn accompanies the portrait, embellished with some exquisite illustrations, of which the views of Walden Pond, the Old Manse, and Emerson's present home, by Homer Martin, are particularly noteworthy. The adventures of "The Tile Club at Play" are described by W. M. Laffan and Edward Strahan, and are illustrated with pictures from drawings by Abbey, Reinhart, Hopkinson, Smith, Walter Paris, Swain Gifford, and other members of the "Club." The poet Stedman writes of the problems of arrial navigation, which he regards as near a solution; there is another of the "Johnny Reb Papers" by A. C. Redwood, with illustrations by the author; Russell Sturgis, the author of the recent article on Cruikshank, furnishes a companion paper on John Leech, illustrated with specimens of his drawings; and John Muir contributes another of his Sierra studies. In fiction we have a fourth installment of Mrs. Burnett's "Haworth's," a seventh of Boyesen's "Falconberg," and short stories by Edward Bellamy and Maurice Thompson. Rev. Edward Eggleston has an entertaining budget of anecdotes about and suggestions to "The Clergy;" H. P. Stearns of Hartford writes of The Relations of Insanity to Modern Civilization; there are poems by Stoddard, Parsons, Rose Hawthorne Lathrop, and others; and the usual editorial and miscellaneous departments.

The *Atlantic* has a full table of contributions, and presents its readers a number of great interest. One of the most seasonable articles is a chapter of reminiscences of Bayard Taylor, by R. H. Stoddard—an appreciative sketch by a personal friend. Mark Twain gives a burlesque sketch of the recent great French duel, in which he plays the part of Gambetta's second. A paper on "Limited Sovereignty in the United States" is a contribution of much interest to the political discussions of the day. Among other contributions are a liberal installment of Mr. Howell's charming story, The Lady of the Aroostook; The Europeans and Other Novels are grouped for review in a pleasant article; Arthur G. Sedgwick discusses the question of International Copyright; Richard Grant White writes of London Streets; W. W. Story describes A Roman Holiday Twenty Years Ago; and Clarence Cook criticises the architecture of the New Catholic Cathedral in New York. Wm. F. Apthorp contributes a study of Musicians and Music Lovers; there are sketches and essays by Harriet Beecher Stowe, F. G. Ireland and H. A. Huntington, and poems by Lucy Larcom, Albert Laighton, Mrs. Piatt, A. W., and Susan Marr Spalding; and the Contributors' Club and the department of Recent Literature are filled with agreeable reading.

The juvenile magazines are worthy of praise. *St. Nicholas* presents the opening chapters of "Eyebright," Susan Coolidge's new story, charming in tone and illustrations; Julian Hawthorne's fairy story is continued, showing rare powers of invention; the famous Peterkin family appear again, and their experience with modern inventions is related; the "Jolly Fellowship" is decidedly funny, this month; there are several short stories, poems, and a budget of puzzles that will use up all the spare time to solve. The illustrations are of the highest class of engraving.

The *Nursery* ably maintains its rank as the magazine of the little folks. It is gratifying to know that, even in the hard times, it keeps up its circulation. Actual experiment has shown that children rapidly improve in reading where it has been substituted in schools for the ordinary reading books, and we hear that the primary schools in this city have recently ordered several thousand copies, enough for each scholar. The same course might be adopted in other schools at light expense. The numbers for the year, neatly bound, make a most appropriate present for a child, and can be had in either one or two volumes. Published by John L. Shorey, Boston.

The above are for sale by A. Williams & Co.

The *North American Review* begins the year as a monthly, a marked change from its original four issues a year. The change in the popular demand had previously been acknowledged by making its publication bi-monthly, and now it enters the field as a competitor of the monthly magazines, and under its present able management is likely to largely increase its readers. The February number opens with a paper by Senator Hoar on "The Conduct of Business in Congress," pointing out defects in the present system and suggesting improvements. The second paper shows the mysteries of American railroad accounting, and urging what is shown to be a needed revision of the laws relating to railroad management. In "A Statesman of the Colonial Era," Gen. Richard Taylor gives a sketch of George Mason of Virginia who was one of the leading statesmen of the Revolution. The most notable paper is by ex-Gov. D. H. Chamberlain, on "Reconstruction and the Negro," his experience and observations in South Carolina furnishing him ample material. He makes some strong points regarding the wisdom of granting suffrage to the negroes. A writer who signs his article "A Russian Nihilist," and who evidently has superior opportunities of knowledge of the subject, reveals a startling picture of the condition of public affairs in "The Empire of the Discontented." The vices and dangers of the autocracy governing Russia have never before been set forth to American readers so forcibly and convincingly. O. T. Sherman, of the scientific corps, gives a valuable summary of the scientific results of the Howgate expedition. In "Sensationalism in the Pulpit, Rev. Dr. Taylor of New York, administers a deserved rebuke to those ministers who are constantly striving after notoriety. The number closes with an article by Prof. T. F. Crane on "Mediæval French Literature," reviewing a class of books known to but few readers in this country. D. Appleton & Co., publishers, New York. Subscription, $5 a year.

THE INDIANS.—The troops under Capt. Wessels, on the 20th came up with the fleeing Indians, and a desperate fight followed, in which, out of the 32 Indians, 23 were killed, and 6 wounded. Only three, squaws, were taken uninjured. Three soldiers were killed, and Capt. Wessels and one private wounded. The Indians fought desperately and refused to surrender.

Sitting Bull is reported as desirous of surrendering and returning to his reservation.

Political Intelligence.

XLV. CONGRESS.---Second Session.

In the Senate, on Wednesday, 22d, the House bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury, in the process of refunding the national debt, to exchange at par the four per cent. bonds for 5-20s, was passed. A protracted debate occurred on the naval appropriation bill, participated in by Messrs. Blaine, Beck and Edmunds. The measure finally passed. In the House, an animated debate sprung up on the Southern war claims bill, which was cut off by the expiration of the morning hour. A bill was passed giving the Secretary of the Treasury additional facilities for the transportation of gold. The formal announcement of the death of Representative Douglass of Virginia was made, and eulogies were pronounced by several members.

In the Senate, Thursday, the consular appropriation bill which appropriates $1,087,835, and the bill to amend the patent laws was passed. A bill was reported to abolish the volunteer navy of the United States, also one appropriating $250,000 as a perpetual fund to aid in educating the blind. The House bill giving the Secretary of the Treasury additional facilities for the transportation of gold was passed. In the House, the bill devoting the proceeds of the sale of public lands to educational purposes was discussed at length, and the army and postal appropriation bills were reported. The total amount recommended for appropriation by the army bill is $26,747,300. The total estimates were $29,084,500. The appropriation for the year of 1879 was $25,778,187. The sum recommended by the postal bill is $34,960,343. The total estimates upon which the bill is based were $36,571,-900. The appropriations for the year ending June 30, 1879, were $33,256,373. An evening session was held for the consideration of the bill for the classification of mail matter.

The main feature of the Senate proceedings, Friday, was a discussion relative to the appointment of a new conference committee on the post-route bill. A resolution was finally adopted for the appointment of a special committee of five, which is to decide upon certain questions of parliamentary law and the precise privileges pertaining to each house of Congress. An ineffectual effort was made to consider Mr. Edmunds' resolution regarding the validity of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution. Adjourned till Monday. The session of the House was occupied principally in the consideration of private bills, several of which were passed.

In the House, Saturday, the bill for the better organization of the United States district court in Louisiana (dividing the State into two judicial districts) was passed. The House then went into committee of the whole on the post office appropriation bill. General amendments were adopted, increasing the pay of post-office clerks and letter carriers, and the appropriation for "star" service.

The Senate, Monday, passed the bill to abolish the volunteer navy of the country, and considered at considerable length the claim of Warren Mitchell to $128,000 for cotton seized and sold at Savannah by the Government during the war. Mr. Edmunds introduced a joint resolution, proposing an amendment to the Constitution prohibiting the payment of claims of disloyal persons for property destroyed in the war of the rebellion. A large number of bills were introduced and referred in the House. The bill proposing that the government loan $500 to all persons desiring to avail themselves of the provisions of the homestead law defeated by a vote of 212 to 22.

The bill to pay Warren Mitchell was defeated in the Senate, Tuesday, by a vote of 30 to 17. Mr. Edmunds' resolution, declaring the validity of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution, was taken up by a vote of 29 to 16, and will be discussed Wednesday. The House passed the bill restricting Chinese immigration by a vote of 155 to 72. The measure prohibits any vessel belonging to citizens of the United States from taking on board at any port of the Chinese Empire, after the 1st of July, 1879, more than fifteen Chinese passengers, whether male or female. The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill was reported. It calls for $15,155,565.61, which is $222,572.89 less than the appropriations of last year, and $941,636.29 less than the department estimates.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

On Wednesday of last week, in the Senate, the report of the commissioners of the Massachusetts school fund, showed that the balance on hand, Jan. 1, was $2,067,581. The Hartford and Erie sinking fund amounts to $1,084,578.17. In the House, the reports of the chief of the State detective force and of the State treasurer were presented. The Hon. John I. Baker introduced an order to find out exactly how many hours the railroad commissioners have worked officially in the last six years. A new State-aid bill for poor soldiers and sailors and their families was introduced on leave by Mr. Mooney of Marlborough, and Mr. Hastings of Worcester put in another bill, also on leave, to prevent double taxation of mortgaged property. The bill concerning trustee process was rejected.

In the Senate, Thursday, the bill to provide a penalty for withholding information by agents of school committees was perfected and placed in the orders. A bill was introduced to amend the act incorporating the Boston school committee, so that the corporation shall be composed of the trustees of all the public school trust funds in Boston,—the city treasurer acting as such temporarily for the corporation. Petitions were presented for a probihitory law, and for the retention of the State detective force. In the House, the Committee on Constitutional Amendment has been instructed to inquire into the expediency of the abolition of the Executive Council. The bill reducing the salaries in the legislative department came down from the Senate, and would have been referred to the finance committee in regular course, but, on motion of Mr. Ladd of Springfield, a member of the retrenchment committee, the bill was placed in Friday's orders for its second reading. An important bill relating to insolvency was introduced. The Trustee Process bill failed of a reconsideration.

The Senate held a short session on Friday. In the House, among other orders presented was one which has for its object to prevent persons not regularly admitted to the bar from making or filling up any writing authorizing an attachment of property; and one which contemplates the reduction of costs of insolvency proceedings. A bill was ordered to the third reading providing that in towns of over five thousand people registration of voters shall close at ten o'clock on the Saturday evening before any election. The salaries bill was taken up, and debate commenced. After an ineffectual attempt to limit speeches to ten minutes each, (except that of the chairman of the retrenchment committee,) Mr. Brackett of Boston, the chairman on the part of the House, opened the debate. In the course of the speeches following, two amendments were moved, one by Mr. Stebbins of Springfield, to make the annual salary of members of the legislature $350, and one by Mr. Litchman of Marblehead, to make it $650, the present amount. The debate attracted unusually full galleries, and members of the Senate were upon the floor of the House during the afternoon. Adjourned till Monday.

On Monday, a petition was presented in the Senate for the increase of the capital stock of the Highland-street Railway Company to one million dollars. Petitioners for the better protection of wives were largely represented in the Senate by their petitions, and in the House those who want woman suffrage and a strictly prohibitory law by legislative enactment were present in strong force. Among the orders introduced in the House was one by Mr. Walker of Worcester, that the committee on constitutional amendments consider the expediency of making the pay of members of the legislature the same as that of jurors in the State courts. The House had a long debate on the salaries bill, and rejected amendments fixing the pay at $650 and $600.

In the Senate, Tuesday, there was little of importance. In the House, a large number of miscellaneous petitions were introduced, among them being some for the abolition of any tax-qualification for suffrage. In both Senate and House the petitions for a stringent prohibitory law were numerous, and the woman suffragists were in force also. Further petitions for relief from double taxation were also presented. A bill was introduced on leave by Mr. Jenkins of Boston, giving the city council the authority in regard to taking land for a Suffolk-county court-house, which was before given to the aldermen alone, and limiting the exercise of the power to three years. The debate on the salaries bill was resumed, and the House concurred with the Senate in making the salaries of members of the legislature $500 a year. No vote was reached on other salaries, and adjournment was voted when a motion was pending to refer the bill to the House in committee of the whole.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

Colonel John D. Washburn, of Worcester, on account of continued ill health, has forwarded his resignation as a member of the Legislature.

At Jacksonville, Fla., 22d, the jury in the case of the Brevard county Canvassing Board, for making a false return in the late Congressional election, brought in a verdict of guilty, with the recommendation to mercy in the case of the Sheriff and Justice of the Peace. The County Canvassing Board and two Inspectors of the late election from Alachua county were arrested on the 22d on the charge of violation of the election laws.

The Lower House of the Tennessee Legislature has tabled, 51 to 13, a resolution for an honorable adjustment of the State debt on the 50 per cent. basis.

The New Jersey Assembly has passed the bill repealing the act of 1878 which prohibits from voting persons attending any college, theological seminary, academy or other literary institution in the State for the purpose of obtaining education.

Since resumption day over $100,000,000 of four per cent. bonds have been sold, which will take the place of $100,000,000 of six per cents., and save the Treasury $2,000,000 annually.

The census bill reported in the Senate by Mr. Morrill, in behalf of the Committee on Census, is, substantially, the same bill introduced in the House by Mr. Cox of New York, with the exception that it provides for the appointment of supervisors by the Secretary of the Interior and appropriates $650,000 for preliminary expenses, instead of $3,000,000 for the expenses of the entire census. It also contains a clause giving the superintendent of census authority to employ special agents to enumerate the Indians, not taxed, with such information as to their condition as is obtainable. The clause providing for obtaining statistics of corporations is substantially retained.

Ex-Governor Hartranft was unanimously confirmed by the Senate as Major General of the Pennsylvania National Guard.

The proposed reduction of the salaries of the Justices of the Maine Supreme Court by the Legislature will not affect the present occupants, as the Constitution declares that the salaries of Judges shall not be decreased during their terms of office.

By a decided majority the Virginia Senate has refused to repeal the whipping post law. In Richmond, where the Police Court docket was crowded with petty larceny cases under the old system, there are now comparatively few.

In the Arkansas Senate, last week, a resolution to remove the portraits of Grant and Lincoln, and substitute those of Lee and Jackson, was defeated, 18 to 9.

The Governor of Louisiana has signed a constitutional convention bill, and will issue a proclamation for election, March 18, of delegates.

The Governor, on the 24th, appointed and the Council confirmed the Hon. Hosea M. Knowlton as District Attorney for the Southern District, to succeed the Hon. George Marston, who resigned the position to accept that of Attorney General. The district includes Bristol, Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket counties, and the present salary is $2000.

Senator Christiancy's physician having advised him to remove to a warmer climate, the President tendered him either the mission to the Consolidated Central American States or to Peru. He has determined to resign his seat in the Senate and to accept the mission to Peru, and it is very possible that Zack Chandler will be elected to fill the vacancy until March 4, 1881.

United States Marshal Turner and United States Attorney Mayer, who were held for trial by the State courts of Alabama on the ground that they were in contempt for not producing the ballot boxes which had been seized by order of the United States Circuit Court, were released on the 24th. The State Attorney had been served with notice of writs of habeas corpus by the Federal Court, hence their release, which avoids a trial of the case.

The House Committee on Civil Service has agreed to report a bill fixing the compensation of United States District Attorneys. The bill contains the following items: District Attorneys of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island, $2000 each; of Massachusetts, $5000, with two Assistant Attorneys at $2000 each; of Connecticut, $3000.

MAINE LEGISLATURE.

This body, as well as our own Legislature is entering upon a campaign in the interest of economy. The civil service committee, on the 22d, reported to the Senate a bill making the following reductions in the salaries of State officials :—

	Present salary.	Proposed salary.
Governor	$2500	$2000
Secretary of State	1500	1200
Deputy Secretary	1500	1200
State Treasurer	2000	1600
Supreme Judge	2500	2000
Railroad Commissioner	1000	800
Bank Examiner and Insurance Commissioner in one office	. . .	2000
Adjutant General	1500	900
Supt. of Public Buildings	1000	600
Supt. of Insane Hospital	3100	1000
Two Physicians—each	1000	850
Steward and Treasurer	1400	1100
Reporter of Decisions	1000	500
Warden of State Prison	2000	1800
Supt. of Reform School	1500	1000

A bill has been reported to allow the Boston & Maine Railroad to discontinue some two miles of track in South Berwick. Also, an act authorizing the land agent to convey, by deed, to all persons who hold land certificates, the State lands which he now holds, provided they pay therefor thirty-five cents per acre in road labor. Bill allowing druggists to sell liquor for medicinal purposes has been assigned to the 30th. The matter of changing the city of Hallowell to a town government will be left to the people of that city to decide, and the petition for the reinstatement of the Augusta City Council referred to the next Legislature.

On Monday, a bill was presented for the better protection of lobsters, that no person shall catch, preserve, sell or expose for sale within the limits of the State any lobsters between the 15th day of July and the 15th day of September, under the penalty of ten dollars for each lobster. A bill was reported relating to line fences, giving a lien on the land owned or occupied by the party neglecting or refusing to build a line fence after having been laid out.

U. S. SENATORS ELECTED.—On the 22d, the election of the following U. S. Senators was formally ratified by the Legislatures of their respective States :—Roscoe Conkling, New York; Orville H. Platt, Connecticut; J. Donald Cameron, Pennsylvania; John A. Logan, Illinois; and Matt A. Carpenter, Wisconsin.

On the 25th, J. D. Walker was chosen U. S. Senator from Arkansas. The Louisiana Legislature has taken several ballots for Senator, without result, so far.

The Markets.

BOSTON RETAIL PRICES.

Inside of Faneuil Hall Market.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 29, 1879.

[Corrected weekly by HILTON & WOODWARD, No. 5, *Veal and Mutton;* GEO. H. RUSSELL, Nos., 17 & 19 *Poultry and Game;* H. BIRD & CO., Nos. 38 & 40, *Beef, Pork, Lard and Hams;* C. C. CHAMBERLIN & CO., Nos. 79 & 81, *Butter, Cheese and Eggs;* SANDS, FURBER & CO., Nos. 88 & 90, *Fruit and Vegetables;* SHATTUCK & JONES, No. 128, *Fish;* GEO. E. RICHARDSON & CO., No. 1, F. H. Square, *Fruit and Nuts.*]

Butter, Cheese and Eggs.

Butter, ₰ lb.—
Lump . . . 30 @ 40
Prime . . . 25 @ 30
3d quality . . 23 @ 25
common, . . 15 @ 20

Cheese, ₰ lb . . 12 @ 15
Sage, ₰ lb . . 14 @ 15
Neufchatel, ea . @ 10
Eggs, ₰ doz . . 28 @ 30

Fruits and Berries.

Apples—
new, ₰ bbl . 1 00 @ 2 00
Cocoanuts, ea . . 5 @ 10
Grapes, ₰ lb . . . @ . .

Hamburg, lb . . @ 6 00
Malaga, ₰ lb . 25 @ 37
Lemons, ₰ doz 25 @ 30
Oranges, ₰ doz 25 @ 50

Fruits and Nuts--Dry and Canned.

Almonds, ₰ lb . 25 @ 40
shelled, ₰ lb . 50 @ 60
Apples, ₰ lb . . 8 @ 12
Castana, ₰ lb . 10 @ 15
Chestnuts, qt . . @ 30
Citron, ₰ lb . . 25 @ 38
Dates, ₰ lb . . 10 @ 15
Figs, ₰ lb . . 15 @ 20
Filberts, ₰ qt . . @ 20
Peanuts, ₰ lb . 10 @ 15

Pecans ₰ lb . . . @ 20
Prunes, ₰ lb . . 15 @ 20
Peaches, ₰ lb . 20 @ 25
qt can . . . @ 50
Raisins, Muscatels ₰ 25 @ 33
keg, ₰ lb . . 10 @ 15
Shagbarks, ₰ qt 10 @ 15
Walnuts, Englishb ₰ lb . . .
Naples, . . @ 20
Zante cur's, ₰ lb 6 @ 12

Vegetables.

Beans, ₰ bushel . 1 10 @ 1 75
₰ barrel . 2 75 @ 3 50
sweet, ₰ lb . . @ . .
Sage and Thyme—
₰ bunch . . . 6 @ 6
Salsify, ₰ bch . . 5 @ 10
Spinach, ₰ pk . . @ 30
Squashes—
Marrow, ₰ lb . . @ . .
Hubbard, ₰ lb . . @ 3½
Turnips, ₰ pk . . @ 25

Meats--Fresh.

Lard, leaf, . . . 7 @ 8
Tried . . . . 7 @ 8
Mutton—
legs, ₰ lb . . . 14 @ 18
fore qr, ₰ lb . . 8 @ 10
chops . . . . 14 @ 18
Pork, ₰ lb . . . . .
Suet, ₰ lb . . . 8 @ 10
Tallow, ₰ lb . . 7 @ 8
Veal, h'd qr ₰ lb 14 @ 17
fore qr . . . 8 @ 12
loins . . . . 15 @ 20
Sweetbreads, 50 @ 75

Meats--Salt, Smoked, &c.

Pork, hams, ₰ lb 8 @ 10
Bacon, ₰ lb . . 8 @ 10
Shoulders, ₰ lb 5 @ 6
Salt, ₰ lb . . . 7 @ 8
Beef, corned, ₰ lb 6 @ 9
Smoked, ₰ lb . 14 @ 17
Tongues, ₰ lb . 11 @ 13

smoked, ea . 1 00 @ 1 25
Sheep, do. ₰ dz . @ 50
Pigs' feet, ₰ lb . 8 @ 10
Sausage, ₰ lb . . 8 @ 10
Bologna, ₰ lb 10 @ 12
Tripe, ₰ lb . . . . @ 12

Poultry and Game.

Chickens, ₰ lb . 15 @ 20
Ducks, ch'ce, ₰ lb 20 @ 25
Black, ₰ pr . 75 @ 1 00
Canvas bk, pr 50 @ 3 00
Fowls, ₰ lb . . 15 @ 17
Geese, ₰ lb . . 10 @ 15
Green, ₰ lb . . . @ 20
Pigeons, ₰ doz 2 00 @ 2 50
squabs, ₰ pr . 50 @ 60
Quails, doz . . 1 50 @ 2 50
Partridges, pr . 75 @ 1 00

Pigs, sck'g, ea 1 50 @ 3 00
quarter, ₰ lb . 10 @ 15
Rabbits, ea . . 10 @ 15
Squirrels, ea . . . @ 10
Turkeys,—
choice, ₰ lb . 15 @ 20
ordinary, ₰ lb 12 @ 15
Venison—legs, lb 12 @ 20
saddles . . 12 @ 15
Widgeon, pr . . 75 @ 1 00

Fish--Fresh.

Halibut, ₰ lb . . . @ 15
chicken, ₰ lb . . @ 20
Perch, ₰ doz . . . @ . .

New England Farmer.

Vol. LVIII. Old Series. } 1879.
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General Intelligence.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

At the recent election in France, Marshal Canrobert was defeated as a candidate for the Senate by a veterinary surgeon. The old soldier, who has led the armies of France in Algiers, Italy, the Crimea, etc., has written a letter, in which he does not seek to disguise his disappointment. He is an intense Imperialist, while his opponent is a Republican.

Prof. Loomis of Yale College is forced to give up his lectures because of feeble health.

Rev. J. M. Finotti, a Catholic priest well known in this vicinity, died in Colorado, January 10. He was an Italian of good family, and in early life was a Jesuit, but left that order shortly after being ordained. Coming to Boston some twenty-eight years ago he was connected with the old cathedral, whence he went to Brookline and remained several years. Taking an extended vacation on account of ill health he was next appointed to the parish in Arlington, where he remained only a short time, when he went west and received an appointment in Colorado. During his residence in Massachusetts, Father Finotti was very active in his priesthood, and also did much literary work. He was at one time literary editor of the *Pilot*, and was an excellent historian of Catholic American literature. As a man he was highly respected and made many friends, among them being the late Governor Andrew.

A Niagara Falls dispatch says the Princess Louise and her husband visited both the Canadian and American side of the falls on Wednesday, 22d, crossed on the ice bridge and enjoyed the scenery very much.

A Marseilles special states that General Grant was given a reception at the consulate before embarking for India on Wednesday. Marshal MacMahon has sent orders to the French Admirals on foreign stations, and to the Governors of French colonies, to treat ex-President Grant with all the honors due to the head of an independent State. The steamer will touch at Naples and Alexandria.

Ashburton Webster, whose death is announced, was the son of Col. Fletcher Webster, and the last surviving grandson of the late Daniel Webster. He was educated at the Annapolis Naval Academy, afterwards studied for the profession of law, and lived for the most part at the homestead in Marshfield, which he inherited from his grandfather. He went to New York for medical treatment in November; but his illness dating from the burning of the old mansion a year ago, was deeply seated, and finally proved fatal. He was named after Lord Ashburton, with whom his grandfather, then Secretary of State, negotiated the famous boundary treaty of 1842, by which many troublesome questions were settled.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hancock, mother of Major-General W. S. Hancock, died at Norristown, Penn., on the 24th.

The Hon. John Cadwallader, judge of the United States district court for the eastern district of Pennsylvania, died in Philadelphia, Sunday morning, after a week's illness. He was seventy-four years old. He was the son of the late Thomas Cadwallader and grandson of General John Cadwallader of revolutionary fame.

Benjamin West, colored, reported to be 109 years old, died in Baltimore on Saturday, He was formerly a slave of ex-Governor Bowie, and professed to have personal recollections of Revolutionary days.

Dr. Henry R. Linderman, Director of the Philadelphia mint, died on Monday. He was born in 1826, was director's clerk in the mint from 1853 to 1865, and was appointed director by President Johnson, in 1867, holding the office two years, and soon after accepted a commission from Secretary Boutwell to examine the mints on the Pacific coast. In 1872 he reviewed, in a special report to Secretary Boutwell, the condition of the silver market, and predicted the decline in the value of silver which afterwards took place. In that report he recommended the coinage of the trade dollar. When the coinage act of 1873 took effect (April 1, 1873) he was appointed director of the mint, and in that capacity organized the new bureau, under the direction of which the operation of the several mints and assay offices have since been conducted.

RESUMPTION.—A Washington despatch of the 23d represents Secretary Sherman as expressing the greatest confidence in the permanent success of resumption. The gold receipts at the Treasury continue to greatly exceed the disbursements on resumption account. The department will commence the payment of coupons at any sub-Treasury now that resumption is assured, and will discontinue the practice of requiring them to be paid by gold checks on New York. This new order will be greatly welcomed in the West, as the Treasury Department has been criticised more on that account than for almost any other act.

SAVINGS BANK TO CLOSE.—Owing to the falling off in business the Directors of the Needham Savings Bank have decided to close the same. The bank is perfectly solvent and depositors will be paid in full.

WHY, VERILY!

Why be an animated tallow-shop when Allan's Anti-Fat is a safe and sure remedy for obesity, or corpulence, and will reduce the most disproportioned form to a graceful outline within a few weeks. It contains no ingredients that can possibly prove deleterious to the system. A well-known chemist, after examining its constituents and the method of its preparation, gives it his unqualified endorsement as a remedy that "cannot but act favorably upon the system and is well calculated to attain the object for which it is intended." BALTIMORE, Md., July 17th, 1878.

PROF'RS ALLAN'S ANTI-FAT, Buffalo, N. Y.:
Dear Sirs—I have taken two bottles of Allan's Anti-Fat and it has reduced me eight pounds.
Very respectfully, MRS. I. R. COLES.

A COUGH, Cold or Sore Throat should not be neglected. "*Brown's Bronchial Troches*" are a simple remedy, and will generally give immediate relief.

CHEW JACKSON'S BEST Sweet Navy Tobacco.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

At West Waterville, Me., on the 23d, Emerson & Stevens's scythe manufactory was destroyed by fire. Loss $20,000; insurance $10,000.

The woolen mill of Rametzer & Bros., South Coventry, Conn., was burned Monday evening. It was a large frame building filled with machinery, and employed about 100 hands. Loss heavy.

Pennsylvania miners are suffering from fires. Locust Gap mine, between Mount Carmel and Shamokin, operated by Graeber & Shepps, were discovered on fire Friday night, 24th, at a depth of 300 feet. An engine with a gang of workmen was sent down from Shamokin Saturday morning to drown the fire. There are other collieries in the vicinity, and unless prompt measures are taken to drown the fire it will spread to those mines. The 250 men and boys employed in the mines all came out during the night. If the mine is filled with water it will require six months to pump it out, and seven months before work can be resumed. Saturday night fire broke out in the tunnel level of the Summit branch colliery at the Williamstown engine house. The machinery and about 20 mules were burned. The fire penetrated to the mine and is still burning, but is said to be under control. Between 500 and 600 hands were employed. No lives were lost. Loss unknown. Later advices state that the officers of the company report the fire at the Williamstown colliery is well under control, and will be extinguished in another day. None of the stopes are injured, and the aggregate loss is $20,000. Another despatch places the loss at from $50,000 to $60,000.

The best portion of Turkey City, Pa., was burned Monday evening. The chief losers were M. B. Hathaway, dry goods, $15,000; Watt & McElwaine, hardware, $3500; J. M. Boilan, $4000. Total, $30,000.

The State Lunatic Asylum adjacent to St. Joseph, Mo., was discovered to be on fire at 1 o'clock on the morning of the 25th, and was totally destroyed. No adequate means had ever been provided to extinguish fire, and but little resistance could be made to the spreading flames. The patients, about two hundred and fifty in number, were safely removed, and now occupy the Court House in St. Joseph, everything being done for their comfort, but they have suffered somewhat from exposure and excitement. The building was erected four years ago at a cost of $190,000. Eighteen months ago there was $100,000 insurance, but the State refused an appropriation to continue the same, therefore the loss is total.

The Irvine Mill in St. Paul, Minn., with two run of stone, was burned January 23d. Loss about $10,000 on the mill and $1500 on wheat; insurance $6900.

At Toledo, Jan. 24th, the railway elevator, with one hundred thousand bushels of grain, mostly corn, was burned. Loss $85,000; insured. The building was the smallest of the company's elevators at this point.

At Warwick, N. Y., Saturday, Eager's Block and six other buildings were burned. Loss $50,000; insured for $40,000. Five families are homeless, saving most their furniture and wearing apparel.

At Chicago, one section of Armour's warehouse at the Union Stockyards was burned Jan. 25. No provisions were destroyed. Loss $10,000.

A fire at Dennison, Texas, Saturday, consumed nearly one entire block. Loss $20,000; insurance small.

At St. Stephen, N. B., Sunday, ten stores were burnt. Loss, 50,000; insured for about $30,000.

WE have often thought that there is no ambition which being gratified affords such happiness to the possessor as results from a successful effort to alleviate the sufferings of mankind. There are millions of human beings suffering untold miseries from various forms of diseases which have seemingly come with them into the world, and cling to them even to the brink of the grave. We have also thought, as we have looked upon human loveliness gradually sinking from our sight under the blighting disease of Consumption, that if ever a cure for that terrible disease was found, it would be the crowning glory of the age. From reports which we have read upon, and the wonderful demand for Dr. M. W. Case's Carbolate of Tar Inhalants, we are led to believe that the remedy for Consumption has been found. If breathing into the sore and ulcerated lungs a delightful balm cures this disease, as it is said to, then nauseous drugs must soon be at a discount. Do not fail to read Dr. Case's advertisement. He deals on the square with all who order from him.

CONSUMPTION CURED.—An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy, for the speedy and permanent cure for consumption, bronchitis, catarrh, asthma, and all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send, free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, with full directions for preparing and using, in German, French, or English. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. W. Sherar, 149 Powers Block, Rochester, N. Y.

The World Abroad.

CABLE DISPATCHES.

Great Britain.

LONDON, Jan. 22.—Eccles's cotton mill at Ashton's near Preston, running 20,000 spindles on full time, was burned yesterday. One hundred and thirty persons were thrown out of employment. Loss £30,000.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—Severe cold prevails, and suffering and destitution are reported from all parts of Great Britain.

The bullion in the bank increased £326,000 during the week.

The *Times'* financial article says: "On account of a dearth of good investments, the people are beginning to look toward the United States four per cent. bonds. We believe the syndicate has already sold to jobbers and others here a considerable portion of the amount just contracted for."

The captain of a British vessel reports that on the 17th inst. he discovered a ship on fire, fifty miles off Fastnet. He bore down to her and saw beside the burning vessel a steamer of peculiar style and rig. He asked if he could be of any use, and was informed by the captain of the steamer if he did not keep on his course he would burn too. He was afterwards overhauled by the steamer and warned not to report what he had seen. This is a doubtful report.

LONDON, Jan. 24.—The manufacturers of Dundee, Scotland, yesterday decided on a reduction of 5 per cent. in mill workers' wages.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—At Preston 300 more mill operatives have struck. At Ashton-under-Lyne the cotton manufacturers have resolved to reduce weavers' wages 5 per cent. on the 14th of February. The master spinners will on Tuesday consider the question of spinners' wages.

The weather in Great Britain has been severe throughout the week. Applications for relief for the poor have greatly increased. In Paris, street traffic is almost suspended by snow. Reports from Brittany and other French provinces represent the snow falls as interrupting railway communication.

A dispatch from Natal, dated Jan. 3, says that Citywage, the Zulu King, refuses all British demands, and has assembled 5000 men on the border. Gen. Chelmsford and staff leave Capetown to-day for the front. The British troops will advance the present week. The British reinforcements have arrived.

The *Times* says Germany sold and Russia bought £100,000 silver yesterday at 51d per ounce.

LONDON, Jan. 27.—It is estimated that one-seventh of the looms and spindles in Blackburn are stopped, and from 4000 to 5000 operatives are idle and destitute. The mill owners state that trade never was worse. Only a few isolated disputes have been settled without a reduction of wages. The colliers' lodges of Sheffield, South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire have agreed to accept arbitration.

In the admiralty division of the high court of justice to-day an action was brought by the owners of the steamer tug Admiral against the United States ship Constitution, to recover £1500 sterling for salvage. Two hundred had been tendered to the owners of the tug, but rejected. The plaintiffs asked leave to serve a notice of the motion upon the captain of the Constitution and the United States consul at Portsmouth. The application was granted, but the judge stated that he could not allow any order to issue upon the captain. He would be prepared to hear the argument on the question on Wednesday next; meantime he would communicate with the government. Plaintiff's council undertook on his own responsibility to serve the captain of the Constitution with a notice of the motion for salvage. The judge impressed him with the necessity of notifying Minister Welch and Lord Salisbury of the present proceedings.

France.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—The *Times'* Paris dispatch says it is announced that Teisserenc de Bort has spontaneously resigned the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce. The correspondent adds that it is expected that Jules Ferry, who was the author of the vote of confidence passed by the Deputies on the 20th, and who personifies the compromise then effected, will succeed DeBort.

PARIS, Jan. 23.—Specie in Bank of France increased 10,425,000 francs during the week.

It is asserted that the Radicals will introduce motions in favor of complete amnesty to-morrow, and bills relative to freedom of the press and the right of public meetings in a short time.

A telegram from the Governor of the French colony of New Caledonia says that movable columns of troops had cooped up the insurgents on the shore of Cape Goulvain, which they captured.

PARIS, Jan. 24.—Three transports will be sent next month to bring pardoned Communist convicts from New Caledonia.

The manager of the *Lanterne* has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 2000 francs for libeling Government officials.

VERSAILLES, Jan. 24.—Before the adjournment of the Chamber of Deputies to-day the Minister of Public Instruction presented a bill making primary education obligatory after Jan. 1, 1880.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—The Budget for 1880 will be presented to the Chamber of Deputies to-day. It estimates a surplus of £66,000.

PARIS, Jan. 26.—Numerous decrees affecting the positions of functionaries were signed yesterday. They include the appointment of M. Herold as Prefect of the Seine and the replacement of six Procurators General. The *National* states that probably six Generals will be removed from commands.

The snow has almost completely isolated Paris, as far as telegraphic communication is concerned, except west and north.

PARIS, Jan. 26.—The drawing of the Exposition lottery began yesterday in the large hall of the Trocadero palace. The drawing consisted of the first 300 prizes.

Germany.

LONDON, Jan. 22.—A Berlin dispatch says it is reported that Bismarck is willing to withdraw his bill to discipline the Reichstag in consequence of the vehement opposition it meets from the diets of the various German States.

BERLIN, Jan. 23.—In yesterday's sitting of the Prussian Budget Committee the Minister of Finance declared that until a new source of revenue from indirect taxation was created in Germany it would be useless to discuss the the question of income and class taxes, as any reform of the present system of taxation would be impossible.

The German army estimates show an increase of 80,000 men.

BERLIN, Jan. 26.—The International Sanitary Commission at Vienna has concluded its labors for the present. It is decided that the regulations relative to arrivals from ports on the lower Danube. The *Montags Revue* says that Herr Finkelnburg declared that should the plague increase, Germany would establish a military cordon of 80,000 men, and that the order for their mobilization was ready.

Russia.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 24.—The Grand Duchess Anastasia, daughter of the Grand Duke Michael, was married to-day to Prince Frederick of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, at Minter palace, with great ceremony. The city was illuminated to-night, Te Deums sung in all the churches, and the bells will continue ringing for three days.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—The *Medical Journal* publishes the following: "Russian and German medical journals state that the east of Europe is in alarm at the progress of what they allege to be the plague, which is rapidly making its way toward the north and east of Russia from the Caspian sea along the course of the Volga. It was imported by two regiments of Cossacks lately from the war in Turkey. It was looked upon as typhus fever, and it was not until the mortality began to assume alarming dimensions that the local authorities began to do something toward arresting its further progress."

Italy.

LONDON, Jan. 27.—The *Times'* Paris correspondent states that the rebellious natives of Bolor, in Guinea, have defeated the Portuguese troops, private telegram states that the Portuguese loss was 300 men, including fifty Europeans and two officers. The Governor of Guinea has been superceded and a corvette with 200 men has been dispatched from Lisbon.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—In the Italian Senate the Minister of Worship, in debate, said that since the accession of Pope Leo, who spoke in a calm, elevated language, certain concessions became easier. The Government would pursue a policy of moderation, and endeavor to smooth the difficulties relative to appointments to sees in royal patronage, while upholding the rights of the Crown.

The Vatican will shortly take steps to re-establish relations with the Mexican Government. Should the negotiations prove unsuccessful, the wants of the Mexican Church will be supplied in the best manner possible without the intervention of the Government.

In the Italian Senate, to-day, the debate upon the foreign policy of the Government was continued. The only new point in the speech of Depretis was the assertion that the interest of Italy forbade any modification of the *statu quo* with Tunis. This is interesting in connection with the relations between France and Italy.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—The *Times'* Berlin dispatch says that a telegram from Rome reports that the Pope has received threatening letters from Socialists in connection with his recent encyclical letter, and intends to call the attention of the powers thereto.

General Items.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—The *Times'* Geneva dispatch notes that American coals are beginning to sell there, being slightly cheaper than French and German coals, and much superior to them. An American locomotive burning anthracite coal is running at Geneva.

The Spanish Vice Consul at Puerto Plata, San Domingo, has been dismissed for sanctioning the arrest of two insurgent generals who had taken refuge on a Spanish steamer and were afterward shot. The Spanish Government has demanded satisfaction from San Domingo for outraging the protection of its flag.

It is reported that Captain General Campos will be recalled from Cuba before the assembling of the new Cortes, having expressed his willingness to become Minister of War after the completion of the Havana elections.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—The Spanish Government has ordered a man-of-war to Puerto Plata, San Domingo, to demand reparation for the insult offered to the Spanish flag by the authorities of San Domingo.

At a conference of the International Sanitary Commission in Vienna on Friday, Germany, Austria and Hungary were represented. Measures to prevent the plague were adopted, and the commission resolved in the event of the spread of the epidemic to entirely close the frontier.

ALEXANDRIA, Jan. 27.—The Egyptian National Bank, with a capital of £4,000,000, has been formed under the auspices of the Minister of Finance, and Robert Lowe, member of Parliament for London-University, has accepted the Chairmanship of the English Board of Directors.

The Afghanistan War.

LONDON, Jan. 27.—The *Standard's* despatch from Khelate-Ghilzai of the 20th says: "The cavalry occupied this place to-day unopposed. General Stewart with the whole second brigade will arrive to-morrow. A despatch dated Ghuzni, 26th, says that General Roberts, previous to his temporarily quitting Khost, assembled the chiefs and warned them that the British would be always near, and would return instantly to quell any disturbance. It would be idle for them to entertain any hope of Russian aid, as Russia was impoverished in men and money."

The Afghan troops at Cabul have withdrawn to Sheraff to check desertion.

The Eastern Question.

LONDON, Jan. 24.—The Bulgaria militia in the Balkan District has been rearmed. Negotiations have commenced between the Porte and Austria on the question of the occupation of Novi Bazar.

TIRNOVA, Jan. 24.—The constitution for Bulgaria has been ratified by the Czar of Russia, and has arrived here. It will be translated into the Bulgarian language and communicated to foreign consuls and the Bulgarian assembly. The time consumed in the translation of the constitution will probably retard a meeting of the assembly to the 8th or 10th of February, when it will be opened by Prince Dondoukoff, the Russian governor of Bulgaria.

LONDON, Jan. 26—The evacuation of Spuz, in fulfilment of Turkey's engagements to Montenegro, is proceeding quietly.

It is announced in diplomatic circles that England intends to definitely purchase Cyprus to avoid complications arising from the nominal continuance of the sovereignty of the Sultan. A million pounds sterling have been offered, which the Sultan will probably accept.

A draft of a definitive treaty with Russia has been sent to the Palace for the Sultan's approval.

LONDON, Jan. 27.—Reports are drawn up by a majority of the foreign consuls at Sophia for their governments, in which they express the opinion that it will be impossible for Turkish troops to return to Roumelia and the Balkans, and that there is every prospect that the future Government of Roumelia will meet with general passive resistance.

Latest Dispatches.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, Jan. 29.—Another serious crisis is impending in France, this time growing out of President MacMahon's refusal to accede to the demands of the council for changes in the military commands. He threatens to resign rather than sign a decree in favor of the proposition. It is also proposed to impeach the ministry on the 16th of May, and the excitement in Paris is intense.

FROM THE PACIFIC COAST.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 25.—A special from Tuma, Arizona, says thirty miles of the Southern Pacific Railroad track has been laid recently, and a station will be opened on Monday at Mohawk Gap, 60 miles east of Colorado River. The graders are approaching Maricopa, 100 miles ahead of the track-layers, which point will be reached by rail in 90 days.

Within the last three days rain has prevailed throughout California, except in the extreme south. In the northern and central portions sufficient has fallen to insure fair crops, with the usual spring rains. The weather is still unsettled, and reports from the southern counties indicate a prospect of the storm reaching there.

The two wings of the Lower House of the Idaho Legislature have come together. The Democratic organization has been declared illegal. There were 48 ballots for Speakership to-day without a choice. A compromise is looked for Monday.

FROM CENTRAL AMERICA.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—News from Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, to Jan. 3, says that the town was in possession of the revolutionists and the fort in possession of the Government. The war steamer Bolivar was aiding the fort, shelling the town and destroying much property and many lives. The American schooner Marcia Reynolds, with a valuable cargo from New York, was obliged to stop at the entrance of the port. The latest advices, by telegram via Trinidad, say that General Cadeno was beaten at Maracal by the Government troops, and he himself taken prisoner.

Miscellaneous Items.

☞ The West Randolph, Vt., National Bank has reduced its capital $25,000, or from $100,000 to $75,000.

☞ The value of the property held by the public charitable institutions in the State of New York is $33,976,672, and the average number of beneficiaries last year was $43,712. The current expenses were $7,408,753.

☞ The Trustees of the Adams Nervine Asylum will take possession of the Weld estate in West Roxbury on the first of May. They pay $32,500, and it cost the previous owner about $70,000.

☞ A tornado struck the town of Lockport, Texas, Sunday evening, demolishing forty houses, including churches, the Court-house and Masonic Hall. One child was killed and several persons badly hurt.

☞ Edwin Vose, of Cushing, Me., a well-to-do farmer, started Saturday night to walk home amid a blinding snow-storm. Monday his dead body was found near Hill's quarry, Thomaston. Coroner Mallard and Dr. Boynton examined the body, and the conclusion was that he died from exposure.

☞ The ascent of Mount Washington was made Monday by Sergeant Jewell, of the Signal Station, and four companions. They were overtaken by a hurricane at "Jacob's Ladder" on the way up, and it was with great difficulty that the last mile was made. There was a heavy fall of snow, and the wind was blowing 108 miles an hour. It took five hours to go three miles from the base to the summit.

☞ The final examination of the accounts of Treasurer Wright of Saratoga county, N. Y., shows a deficiency of $24,000.

☞ Bangor capitalists propose to build a telegraph line from Bangor to Moosehead Lake. The cost is estimated at $4000.

☞ William O'Brien and two sons were burned to death in their camp at Milberry Brook, N. B. The three dead bodies were found in the ashes.

☞ Within a fortnight five children have been killed in Pittsburg and Alleghany, Pa., by accidents from coasting, and six maimed for life. An effort is making to stop the sport.

☞ The house, barn and out-buildings, with hay and farming implements of David Blaisdell were destroyed by fire at South Berwick Junction Jan. 23. Loss $2000; insured.

☞ A fire in Woonsocket, R. I., early Sunday morning destroyed the house owned and occupied by Patrick Coyle. Loss $2500; insured for $2000.

☞ Hiram H. Goff's house, with contents, New Bedford, were damaged to the amount of $4000 by fire Sunday evening; insurance $3600. The cause was a defective flue.

☞ The Rev. Father O'Carroll's barn at Fairhaven, Vt., was burned Jan. 18. Two horses, a carriage and a sleigh were destroyed. Loss about $700; insured for $150.

☞ The Baltimore authorities, on account of large speculations in subsidiary silver coin, have been compelled to issue an order declining to receive subsidiary silver for licenses and taxes in sums greater than $5.

☞ The frame of the new Masonic building in Dalton, just erected, was blown down Saturday afternoon. The building was owned by W. H. Hawley of Sandisfield, who will lose several hundred dollars.

☞ Wm. B. Pitt of Hinsdale, while drawing logs at a sawmill in Hinsdale the other day, got caught between two of them and was nearly bent double, from the effects of which he died. He was 58 years of age.

☞ It is said that the formation of the new syndicate to place the four per cents on the London market will effectually end shipments of coin, for whenever exchange reaches the shipping point bonds can be sent to London.

☞ One hundred new buildings, mostly residences, were erected in Salt Lake, Utah, last year, and more street improvements were made in the same time than during the ten years previous.

☞ The Baldwin Locomotive Works have an order for several locomotives of the heaviest draft from a railway in Norway, which is the first ever received in the United States from either Sweden or Norway.

☞ The agent of the Maine Beet Sugar Company, who has just returned from a trip to Europe to investigate the industry there, reports that there is no reason why it may not be made profitable in New England.

☞ Sally Huso, a much respected woman of Exeter, N. H., died recently at the age of 94 years. Her death removes one more of the old character landmarks of that ancient town.

☞ A profitable business in Western Texas is the collecting of the bones of buffalo and cattle which are strewn over the plains of that district. A San Antonio collector recently shipped 3333 tons at one time, receiving therefor nearly $25,000.

☞ The summer residence, with furniture, belonging to the estate of the late George O. Hovey, Gloucester, Mass., was destroyed by fire Jan. 24. The fire caught from the furnace. Loss estimated at $8000; probably covered by insurance.

☞ The investigation into the cause of the death of James S. Rockwell of Montague Heights, Brooklyn, N. Y., has led to the discovery that diptheria, which proved fatal in his and other cases in the house, was induced by sewer gas. It is proposed to ventilate the sewers of that entire district.

☞ The treasurer of the Augusta, Me., Soldiers' Monument Association reports that the gross receipts of the recent fair were, in round numbers, $1500; the net receipts will be about $1000, to be appropriated toward the monument, the erection of which may now be regarded as an assured fact.

☞ Gen. Thom, U. S. Engineer, as the result of an examination of Portsmouth harbor, recommends the removal of the Gangway Rocks, between the Navy Yard and Stone Beacon, at a cost of $85,000, the removal of Badger's Island Ledge at a cost of $35,700, also the closing of the the tideway at the third Newcastle bridge at a cost of $12,600.

☞ Henry Kimball of Kittery Point, Me., was found Thursday night, 23d, lying face down, dead, frozen stiff, in a swamp near his father's residence. He had been to market that day, and left late in the afternoon for home. His prolonged absence led to a search. He was 30 years old, and leaves a wife and several children.

☞ The Bowdoin College *Orient* reports that $50,000 have been pledged from the Stone estate in Malden, Mass., for Bowdoin College. Efforts are being made, with a reasonable prospect of success, to increase this so as to add $100,000 to the permanent fund of the college. There is good prospect of completing Memorial Hall in another summer.

☞ The snow blockade could not rob a pushing Rochester, N. Y., beau of his expectant bride. Forty miles from his destination, his train stuck in the banks, but to get to a telegraph office, and when the appointed hour had come, the clicking of the wires and an attendant clergyman joined together two loving hearts, who clasped hands when the blockade was raised.

☞ New Orleans speedily forgets her terrible experience of yellow fever, and is preparing for a magnificent celebration of the Mardi Gras festival of February 25. The costumes have been selected in Paris, and are now on their way to this country, and the knowing ones predict that the pageant will be the grandest ever given on this side of the Atlantic.

☞ Mr. Powers, President of the New Hampshire Fish Commissioners, during the past week has placed in the Pemigewassett nearly 1,000,000 young salmon, making, with what have been put in before, some 2,000,000. There are still left in the hatching house 150,000 young salmon and about 50,000 young trout, which will be left there until later, trout not being placed in the streams before May.

☞ In the United States Court at Albany, N. Y., Jan. 25, Asa T. Soule of Rochester pleaded guilty of sending through the mails obscene literature. It was in the nature of an advertisement of a medicine, in which he had no interest, inserted in a pamphlet he published. He was fined $1000 and $100 costs, which he paid.

☞ Mr. Lamson, the expert who has been examining the books of Francis Bennett, the defaulting treasurer of Gloucester, has about finished his examination, and finds the exact amount to be $8670, the sum confessed to his bondsmen to have been taken. The expert classes the books among the best he ever examined, both as regards the manner and neatness of the whole set throughout.

☞ Frank Marsh of Brandon was arrested at Rutland, Vt., Saturday night for passing forged checks and for burglary. He broke into the bookstore of J. B. Kelly, in Brandon, a few nights ago and there is but little doubt that he is the burglar who broke into Tuttle & Co.'s store in Rutland on the night before Thanksgiving and stole over $500 worth of gold pens and holders.

☞ Nine of the nineteen leaders of the noted Clarke county (O.) Kuklux, against whom indictments were found by the last Grand Jury, were arrested on Saturday on the charge of murder and kidnapping. The other ten have fled to parts unknown. Three of the parties arrested a month ago have been sentenced to the penitentiary, and the remaining five will probably plead guilty of kidnapping.

☞ At Fall River, Jan. 24, Annie McNeal, a doffer in the Mechanics' Mill, had her hair caught by the back shaft of a speeder, drawing her head into the machinery. The machine was stopped as soon as possible and the girl, whose hair was twisted in the machine cut loose, but not before she was probably fatally injured. There were four large scalp wounds, one five inches long, and a piece of skull two inches long gone, exposing the brain.

☞ David Fuller and Reuben Munger, citizens of Brown county, Wis., are under arrest on warrants issued by Commissioner Bloodgood charging them with assisting in the removal of timber cut on lands belonging to the United States and occupied by the Oneida Indians. It is said the authorities will proceed in this manner against a large number of persons, in addition to civil suits for the recovery of the value of the timber, the Interior Departments having ordered a rigid enforcement of the statutes against all trespassers, including purchasers of material.

At Belvidere, N. J., on Saturday, Chief Justice Beasley imposed the following sentences on the convicted county officials: Ex-Clerk Mattison, four years in State Prison; ex-Director Strader, two years; ex-County Collector Cummins, two years; ex-County Collector Teel, two years; ex-Freeholder Bulgin, eighteen months; Freeholder Cox, eighteen months; Freeholder King, one year; ex-Attorney Givens, eighteen months; Councilman McDermott, one year—all at hard labor; Contractor Silker six months in the county jail and $500 fine.

☞ The Good Templars in Vermont numbered last year 4568 members. During 1878 1982 members were added, while the total loss was 1502, making a net gain of 480. The present membership is 4998. There were 66 Lodges at last report, and 30 have been instituted during the year, while 11 have surrendered their charters.

☞ The stubs in the check book once owned by Ben Noyes of the National Capital Life Insurance Company have come into possession of Receiver Russell, and are said to show where about $30,000 went to which were expended by Noyes to prevent adverse legislation. Several members of the Connecticut Legislature of 1875 are in danger of exposure.

☞ The reported controversy concerning the laying of the track of the Boston, Hoosac Tunnel & Western Railway across the Hart estate at Schaghticoke Point has been arranged and workmen are placing an iron bridge across the river. Through trains from Mechanicsville to Eagle Bridge will be running in ten days. The grading from Eagle Bridge eastward is being driven with full force.

☞ A collision occurred Jan. 23, on the Levis and Kennebec Railway, near St. Anselme, P. Q., between a passenger train and an engine that was opening the road. The second class of the passenger train was telescoped by a platform car, and one passenger, named J. B. Laflamme, was instantly killed. Dr. Morrissett had a leg cut off, and another passenger was badly hurt.

☞ The Lewiston *Journal* says that there "is a movement to take the management of the Maine Central out of the hands of the Eastern road and place it under the control of Maine men, where it properly belongs, by securing the passage of a bill prohibiting the representation at meetings of stock owned by any 'foreign railroad company.' On the 29th there is to be a committee hearing at Augusta on this question."

☞ About thirty boys are employed in the shoe shop of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum at Hartford, Conn., and the sales last year realized nearly $1200; in the cabinet shop are forty boys, and their yearly sales amount to about as much; about twenty-five boys and a few girls are in the tailors' shop. They make the clothing of the pupils and sell $500 worth each year. The hours of shop work are about an hour and a half in the morning and the same in the afternoon after school.

☞ The Richmond, Va., *State* objects to having the rivers of that State stocked with fish, on the ground that it will encourage idleness and prove detrimental to farming. In support of its opinion, the *State* might quote an example in a New England State, where, so long as alewives were abundant in a small river in the interior, certain towns along its banks did not thrive. When a dam was built across the river, which stopped the fish, people gave more attention to farming, and, as a whole, have gained.

☞ The total grand list of Connecticut is $344,406,977, and the several counties have this apportionment: New Haven $91,017,874, Hartford $86,506,111, Fairfield $55,582,840, New London $40,775,536, Litchfield $26,528,478, Windham $18,237,221, Middlesex $17,198,617, Tolland $8,560,310. The grand list of the principal cities are: Hartford $49,752,062, New Haven $49,209,049, Norwich $14,602,901, Bridgeport $12,704,616, Meriden $8,783,839, Waterbury $7,958,728, New London $6,746,167, Middletown $6,422,275, New Britain $4,687,841.

☞ The Springfield *Union* relates that a widow in that city recently discovered the whereabouts of a long-lost daughter, stolen from her 27 years ago when an infant. The lady is a native of Hartford county, Conn., and went with her husband after her marriage to western New York, which was then a good deal of a wilderness as compared with its condition now. Her first child, a girl, was born there, and she was on her way to rejoin her husband after a temporary separation, when the infant was stolen from her during a long stage journey, and she has never seen the child since, though, as noted above, she has recently discovered that she is alive and living in Wisconsin, where she is married and has three children. It appears that the child was stolen by a man who carried the lady 15 miles by private conveyance to meet the stage, and whom she always suspected. He stole the child with the intention of adopting her as his own, and placed her, by the aid of an accomplice, with a family in Pennsylvania, designing to reclaim her when he could do so without suspicion. But the time never came when he dared do it, and the little girl grew up as the adopted child of the family, finally married the younger brother of the master of the house and removed to Wisconsin, where the family is prosperous and happy. Communication has been established for some months now between the mother and daughter, and photographs exchanged which would leave no doubt of the relationship, if any had existed before. They propose to have a meeting soon, near the scene of their tragic parting, more than a quarter of a century ago.

Business Notices.

BUTTER COLOR.

Having frequent calls for the genuine

BUTTER COLOR,

prepared by Wells & Richardson, which is largely used and recommended by leading dairymen, we have procured a supply, and will keep it on hand for the accommodation of our subscribers. It is put up in bottles, retailing at 25 cents and 50 cents, the smaller size being sufficient to color over 300 pounds of butter.

☞ *It cannot be sent by mail*, but will be forwarded by express, if desired. Send orders to

5tf R. P. EATON & CO., Boston, Mass.

Marriages and Deaths.

MARRIED.

In this city, Jan. 20, by Rev. Alexander Blaikie, D. D., Mr. Eliab Parker, of North Reading, to Miss Adelia D. Thorndike.

Jan. 21, by Rev. Dr. Colt, Henry Bradlee, of Medford, to Maude, daughter of Edward A. Abbott.

Jan. 21, by Rev. H. K. Fervear, Geo. O. Sanborn, of Cambridge, to Anna Wells.

Jan. 21, by Rev. C. H. Babcock, Mr. Augustus Sparhawk to Miss Lizzie A., daughter of the late Chas. G. Cutter.

Jan. 22, by Rev. S. H. Hayes, Wm. E. Atwood to Bridget Woods.

Jan. 23, by Rev. A. A. Miner, D. D., Mr. Samuel W. Neat to Annie A. Easton.

Jan. 23, by Rev. A. J. Gordon, Miles S. Turner, of So. Scituate, to Annie McKay.

Jan. 23, by Rev. Warren H. Cudworth, Mr. Chas. F. Parkinson to Miss Eleanor T. Brown.

Jan. 23, by Rev. H. F. Allen, Mr. Geo. H. Allen to Audrie E. Drummond.

Jan. 23, by Rev. D. W. Waldron, Geo. R. Leavitt to Lucy A. Bisbee, both of Lacouia, N. H.

Jan. 15, by Rev

Poetry.

From Scribner's Monthly.

THE DEAD MASTER.

[*Read at the Century.*]

BY R. H. STODDARD.

It is appointed unto man to die.
Where Life is Death is, dominating Life,
Wresting the sceptre from its feeble grasp,
And trampling on its dust. From the first hour
When the first child upon its mother's breast
Lay heavily, with no breath on its cold lips,
To the last hour when the last man shall die,
And the race be extinct—Death never came,
Nor ever will come, without apprehension.
The dying may be ready to depart,
For sleep and death are one to them; but we
Who love them, and survive them—unto whom
The places they once filled are filled no more,
For whom a light has gone out of the sun,
A shadow fallen on noonday—unto us,
Who love our dead, Death always comes too soon,
A consternation and a lamentation,
The sorrow of all sorrows till in turn
We follow them, and others mourn for us.

This tragic lesson of mortality
The Master who hath left us learned in youth,
When the Muse found him wandering by the stream
That sparkled, singing, at his father's door—
The first Muse whom the New World, loving long,
Wooed in the depths of her old solitude.
The green, untrodden, world-wide wilderness
Surrendered to the soul of this young man
The secret of its silence. Centuries passed;
The red man chased the deer, and tracked the bear
To his high mountain den—but he came not.
The White man followed; the great woods were felled,
And in the clearings cottage smokes arose,
And fields were white with harvests: he came not.
The New World waited for him, and the words
Which should disburden the dumb mystery
That darkened its strange life when summer days
Steeped the green bogus with light, and winter nights
Looked on it was like Death upon the dead, old world;
For what was Earth but the great tomb of man,
And suns and planets but sepulchral urns
Filled with the awful ashes of the Past?

Such was the first sad message to mankind
Of this young poet, who was never young,
So heavily the old burden of the Earth
Weighed on his soul from boyhood. Yet not less,
Not less, but more he loved her; for if she
Was sombre with her secret she was still
Beautiful as a goddess; and if he
Should one day look upon her face no more,
He would not cease to look till that day came:
For he for life was dedicate to her,
The inspiration of his earliest song,
The happy memory of his sterner years,
The consolation of his ripe, old age.
What else was to the eyes of lesser men,
Which only glance at the rough husk of things,
She never was to him;—but day and night
A loveliness, a might, a mystery,
A Presence never wholly understood,
The broken shadows of some unknown Power,
Which overflows all forms, but is not Form—
The inscrutable spirit of the Universe!
High-priest whose temple was the woods, he felt
Their melancholy grandeur, and the awe
That mediæval and solitude beget,
Strange intimations of invisible things,
Which, while they seem to sadden, give delight,
And hurt not, but persuade the soul to prayer;
For, silent in the hallowed ways of Death,
Under green roofs of overhanging boughs,
Where the Creator's hands are never stayed,
The soul recovers her forgotten speech,
The lost religion of her infancy.

Nature hath sacred seasons of her own,
And reverent poets to interpret them.
But she hath other singers, unto whom
The twinkle of a dew-drop in the grass,
The sudden singing of an unseen bird,
The pensive brightness of the evening star,
Are revelations of a loveliness
For which there is no language known to man,
Except the eloquent language of the eye.
Hushed with the fulness of her happiness!
What may be known of those recondite things
Our grave, sweet poet knew; for until him
The Goddess of the Earth revealed herself
As to no other poet of the time,
Save only unto us who slumbers at Grasmere,
His Brother—not his Master. From the hour
When first he wandered by his native stream
To crop the violets growing on its banks,
And list to the brown thrasher's roundelay hymn,
To the last hour of his long, honored life,
He never faltered in his love of Nature.
Reclose with men, her dear society,
Welcome at all times, savored of content,
Brightened his happy moments, and consoled
His hours of gloom. A student of the woods
And of the fields, he was their calendar.
Knew when the first pale wind-flower would appear,
And when the last wild-fowl would take his flight;
Where the cunning squirrel had its granary,
And where the industrious bee had stored her sweets.
Go where he would, he was not solitary;
Flowers nodded gayly to him—wayside brooks
Slipped by him laughing, while the emulous birds
Showered lyric raptures that provoked his own.
The winds were his companions on the hills—
The clouds, and thunders—and the glorious sun,
Whose bright beneficence sustains the world,
A visible symbol of the Omnipotent,
Whom not to worship were to be more blind
Than those of old who worshipped stocks and stones.

Who loves and lives with Nature tolerates
Baseness in nothing; high and solemn thoughts
Are his—clean deeds and honorable life.
If he be poet, as our Master was,
His song will be a mighty argument,
Heroic in its structure to support
The weights of the world forever! All great things
Are native to it, as the sun to Heaven.
Such was thy song, O Master! and such fame
As only the kings of thought receive is thine;—
Be happy with it in thy larger life
Where time is not, and the sad word—Farewell!

A Selected Story.

From London Society.

LADY CHARMEIGH'S DIAMONDS.

Sir Peter Charmeigh had warned his wife more than once that she would be robbed of her diamonds if she was not more careful to lock them up. The newspapers were chronicling great jewel robberies at this time, and Sir Peter one day emphasized his warning by bringing home from London a fine ebony strong-box, with the most adorable of gold keys attached as a pendant to a bracelet.

This pretty gift quite delighted Lady Charmeigh, who convoked all her acquaintances to the Hall to see her wonderful anti-burglar safe. A description of it somehow got into the county papers. It was of globular shape, about the size of a big school-room globe, and mounted in the same fashion on a stand with a pivot. An ingenious mechanism, which had to be wound up every morning, kept it spinning roundn all day at the rate of thirty-two revolutions a minute, and any attempt to check it in its course resulted in the ringing of a loud alarm. The way to stop it was to press with the foot a knob on one of the legs of the stand, and when it had ceased revolving, to form a word with some movable letters set in a circular plate at the top of the globe. After this it was all plain sailing. You had only to insert the gold key in a cavity of the middle letter, which formed a key-hole, to give one turn to the right and two to the left, and then the box opened of itself into halves, each forming a receptacle full of compartments lined with blue velvet. There was a place for rings, another for bracelets, a third for tiaras, one for money, and so forth; and all were perfectly adapted to their special uses. In fact, it was a beautiful box, and Lady Charmeigh spent a most amusing week in experimenting on it before her friends, who knew not whether to admire it most when it spun round and round, making its steel incrustations flash in the light, or when it stood open revealing a wealth of trinkets almost unmatched, for the "Charmeigh diamonds" were famous from London to Amsterdam.

Unfortunately, Lady Charmeigh was one of those persons who soon tire of a new toy. A pretty little woman, with large, earnest blue eyes and a smiling mouth, she had in many things the ways of a petted child, and could not bear trouble nor contradiction. So long as her safe gave her amusement she scrupulously locked up her jewels in it, but when the novelty had worn off, and it became a question of touching a knob, forming a word, and turning a key once to the right and twice to the left every time she wanted to get out a ring or a locket, she began to find the process troublesome. Sir Peter made things worse by solemnly winding up the mechanism himself every morning and lecturing upon its perfections. He was as proud of the safe as if he was the inventor, and took an altogether professional pleasure in polishing its steel work with a piece of wash-leather, and explaining how the key should be turned, with a little push forward to start some hidden spring, about which he was very learned. Sir Peter was a rather fidgety middle-aged gentleman, with a fat face, and there were times when, hearing him prose about the beauty of machinery, Lady Charmeigh felt inclined to sit down and scream. Besides, there was another cause of irritation. The talismanic word necessary to open this precious strong-box altered every day of the week, so that Lady Charmeigh, who had a defective memory, was constantly making mistakes. She spelled "Jupiter" when it ought to have been "Mercury," and finding the box would not cease its spinning, tried to stop it with her small hands; whereupon it would set up a yelling with its alarm like that of a peevish beast molested. Any one who knows what a pretty woman's nerves are, will quite understand how, at the end of a fortnight, Lady Charmeigh came to hate her strong-box with an intense and unquenchable loathing. The very sound it made revolving, a well-oiled purring sound, was odious to her, and if it had not been for her maid, who took as great a delight in the instrument as Sir Peter did, Lady Charmeigh would have left off locking up her jewelry in it and practiced some little deceit towards her husband; but every time she forgot to lock up a trinket, Martha (or Patty) Raggles, her maid, would exclaim,

"O my lady, think of what Sir Peter would say if he knew you left those jools a-lyin' about, and he so afeard of burglars. O my goodness!"

Patty was herself very much afraid of thieves. She was a simple, good-natured country wench, who had lived a little while with Lady Charmeigh before the latter's marriage, and who, having spent five years in her service since, had become expert at hair-dressing, lace-ironing, and dress-making—more so than at speaking elegant English. Her colloquialisms were vulgar, but her heart was sound, and her mistress was very fond of her; for, indeed, Lady Charmeigh liked all people who were good-natured and did not tease her, and bore her occasional outbreaks of bad temper with philosophy. However, there were some tiffs between her ladyship and her maid respecting that strong-box. Lady Charmeigh thought Patty too officious about it, and reminded her rather tartly that when the box had first come into the house she—Patty—had been horribly afraid of it as of a live thing. This was perfectly true, but we grow accustomed to things we had at first disliked; and Patty had made friends with the "live" box, as she might with a snappish dog who had proved tractable on closer acquaintance. There was even something pathetic in her artless admiration of its strength and beauties; and as the girl was right to advise her mistress to be cautious about jewels of so great price, Lady Charmeigh gave up quarreling about the matter. Only it so chanced that Patty went home for a month's holiday to keep house for a married sister who was ill; and then Lady Charmeigh took an easy opportunity of removing all her trinkets from the safe, unknown to her husband, and restoring them to her drawers. Sir Peter continued to wind up the safe gravely every morning; but there was nothing in it.

Now it was about a week after this little daily farce had begun to be enacted—a week, that is, after Patty's departure—when Charmeigh Hall became the scene of a memorable burglary which furnished a month's table-talk to every mansion in England.

One November evening, while Sir Peter was entertaining some of his brother magistrates and their wives at dinner, Lady Charmeigh's dressing-room was entered by means of a ladder placed under a window that looked into the garden, and the safe, the famous safe, was broken open like a walnut. The burglars must have commenced operations very soon after the company sat down to dinner, and they must have been amazingly quick about their work; for it was no later than eight when a housemaid entering the room surprised them, and gave instant alarm by screaming and falling down in hysterics. The burglars decamped with alacrity; and the company, attracted by the noise, hurried up stairs, preceded by Sir Peter, with his mouth full and a napkin in one hand. It was a singular sight. Ladies shivering in their dinner-dresses, and huddling close to gentlemen in evening clothes; Lady Charmeigh herself, pale with terror, and crossing her hands over the low body of her cerise dress, as if afraid that some robber would snatch at the lovely pearl necklace which she wore round her throat; and then fat Sir Peter, who looked as if he wished he had brought a poker with him instead of the napkin, which was not much of a weapon to fight with in case of assault.

There was a moment's anxious silence when the door of the dressing-room was reached, and then a very shout of anguish escaped from Sir Peter, who tottered with sudden faintness; "Great heavens, the safe has been ransacked and all the jewels have been stolen!"

"The Charmeigh diamonds stolen!" This dismayed cry was echoed by the entire company, including footman, butler, cook, and housemaids, grouped at the top of the staircase in attitudes expressive of consternation. The butler felt so bad that he sat down on the stairs to compose himself, and the tallest of the pair of housemaids tried to soothe him.

"O dear, dear!" cried Lady Charmeigh; and she, too, being overcome, staggered into the room and sank on an ottoman.

"Poor thing!" exclaimed a certain Lady Vilious, who was her best friend, and had always envied her the possession of those diamonds. "Poor dear! perhaps the thieves will be caught with their plunder. Let us hope so!"

"Never!" yelled Sir Peter, mopping the dew of emotion off his face with the napkin. "These fellows are never caught; they get clean away, and have the diamonds recut in Holland. Think of that! Diamonds which have been in my family for two centuries, and worth a hundred thousand pounds at least!" Something like a sob accompanied these words.

"It is indeed a loss!" ejaculated Lady Vilious, with a great show of sympathy; but there was a gleam in her eyes. She was a mincing sort of lady, with thin lips and a cold glance. By this time everybody had crowded into the dressing-room. The chill night air blowing through the open window struck upon the bare shoulders of the ladies, the waxen candles flickered, some of the gentlemen craned out of the window, peering through the darkness for sight or sound of the retreating thieves. One of them hallooed because he espied a cat.

More of those present, however, concentrated their attention upon the impenetrable safe which had yielded so ignominiously to a first attack. It had evidently been burst, and not left open accidentally by Lady Charmeigh, as Sir Peter at first suspected, for it bore marks of violence. The thieves must have got possession of the secret for stopping its rotation, since the alarm had not been sounded, but they had failed to form the word which made the lock act, and so they simply prised the two halves of the safe apart with their crowbars. There stood the globe open, and void of everything except a small portrait of Sir Peter on enamel, which the thieves had had the bad taste not to regard as a valuable. For the rest, they seemed to have laid hand on every trinket, large or small; and thus the disaster was revealed as being so big that Sir Peter's visitors felt as if common expressions of sympathy would be mockery. Even the plumper and older squires, who were disgusted at having been roused from dinner between the fish and entrees, recognized that there are conjunctions in which a host may be pardoned for forgetting that there are still two courses to discuss. They surrounded Lady Charmeigh, whom they naturally imagined to be plunged in an abyss of grief—one of the worst griefs that a pretty woman can know; for diamonds are not only precious in themselves, but they are dew-drops on feminine beauty, and help to make it shine.

Judge, then, of the surprise of the assemblage when her Ladyship, who appeared to be sobbing with her face buried in her handkerchief, suddenly looked up, her features being aglow with merriment, and burst into an uncontrollable fit of laughter. The guests glanced at one another, thinking she must have lost her reason; but when peal after peal had rung out from her pretty mouth, without evoking one responsive smile, she checked herself, and rose, blushing, but still amused.

"Excuse me, I know it's very wrong," she said, "but the fact is my jewels have not been stolen at all. See here," and, unlocking the glass door of her wardrobe, she pointed to a multitude of velvet and shagreen cases lying all unharmed upon the shelves.

"What, you had not put them in the safe, then?" exclaimed Sir Peter, divided between intense relief and annoyance that his orders had not been obeyed.

"No; I thought it would be *unsafe* to do so," said Lady Charmeigh with a fresh laugh. "Every body has been talking so much of my strong-box that I felt convinced its secrets must have become matters of notoriety; so I reasoned that if burglars broke into the house they would spend all their efforts on the safe, without exploring elsewhere. And it seems I was right."

"Bravo!" ejaculated Lady Charmeigh's cousin, Dick Lyster, a hussar. "By Jove, that's what I call good tactics, cousin." And so said all the other gentlemen, with applauding murmurs.

"And do you mean to say there was nothing whatever in the box?" asked Sir Peter, who could scarcely believe he had a wife of so much wit.

"Nothing of consequence; I had removed all my treasures," answered my Lady.

"You forget your husband's portrait, my dear," remarked Lady Vilious, who had been smiling yellow, as the French say.

"O, I left that in the box, so as to be able to say truthfully that it did contain something precious," replied Lady Charmeigh, with ready tact; but she mentally scored down her good friend for reprisals on the earliest opportunity.

"Well, all I can say is that you deserve to be made keeper of the Crown jewels, cousin Amy," cried Captain Dick, with genuine admiration. "You have found out the true uses of safes."

"Yes, to put nothing in them," smiled Lady Charmeigh. "And now let us go back to dinner; I am really ashamed that our appetites should have been spoiled for nothing."

They did return to dinner, some with appetites rather renovated than impaired; and the talk at table was all about the ingenuity and sense which the winsome hostess had displayed, not only in taking her measures against burglars, but in keeping her counsel about them. In the course of the evening servants were dispatched to give information to the Police, and detectives were sent afield, who, of course, discovered nothing, after the manner of their kind, though they went to work with sapient looks and handfuls of "clues." During a whole fortnight, however, the papers discussed the great burglary at Charmeigh Hall, and Lady Charmeigh was complimented on her "happy thought." She became quite a heroine, renowned among fair women as a type of the prudent *chatelaine*.

II.

All this was very fine; but Sir Peter Charmeigh did not feel much like a hero. He and the maker of the safe laid their heads together, and agreed that this triumph of mechanical craft ought never to have been burst open, and could not have been if the most ordinary rules of dynamics had been followed in forcing it. They were like the historians, enumerating the hundred and one reasons why Waterloo ought not to have been won by the English. The safe-maker wrote a letter to the *Times* on this subject, and Sir Peter gloomily recommended it to the perusal of his wife, who, however, preferred to read the leading articles, in which her praises were set forth. Since the burglary she had adopted rather a hoighty-toity attitude, as of one who has asserted her wisdom beyond dispute. Sir Peter was humiliated, and there came a day when he seriously began to think that his wife's pride required taking down a little.

One is sorry to say that these views, too candidly expressed, led to some disagreeable scenes. Sir Peter was a pompous man, who liked to play Sir Oracle in his own house, and his occupation would have been gone if he had been obliged to give up fault-finding and counseling. The first time that he heard Lady Charmeigh yawn over some wise saw of his, it was as though the knell of marital authority had sounded in his ears, and he expressed himself bitterly on this point to Dick Lyster, who was staying at the Hall. He could not have chosen a better confidant or a worse one; a better, for Dick liked him and gave him ready sympathy; a worse one, for this same Dick was an incorrigible practical joker, who forthwith began turning over a plan for getting a good laugh out of the domestic situation.

"Look here," said he to the Baronet, as they sat together over their walnuts and wine. "You must teach Amy a lesson, or else she'll be losing her jewels from over-confidence."

"That's what I'm always telling her, but she won't listen," answered miserable Sir Peter. "Those wretched newspapers have turned her head. She has no consideration for my feelings nor for my experience."

"You must recover your prestige with a grand stroke," remarked the Hussar. "Suppose you prove to Amy that you are right by stealing all her jewels yourself."

"I steal my wife's jewels?"

"Yes; you can make a capital joke of it. You leave the Hall, saying you are going up to London on business for two days; you return quietly in the evening, enter the house without being seen, and carry off the jewels in the night to your own dressing-room. In the morning, after Amy has had a good scare, you come forward and explain the pleasantry. I'll be bound you are master in your own house after that!"

"You have queer ideas, Dick," said Sir Peter, amazed, but evidently tempted. "If I were ten years younger I don't say——"

"What have ten years to do with it? You are quite young enough to enter into a piece of fun. However, just leave the business details to me; I will be your confederate and help to mount this little comedy."

Sir Peter had not sagacity enough to see that a husband who plots how he may inflict a deep wound on his wife's vanity is playing a dangerous game. He looked only to the recovery of his supremacy, though to do him justice, he really did feel very anxious about the Charmeigh diamonds, which were family pride. When a family has nothing else to be proud of, it takes to being proud about its belongings; and since the burglary, Sir Peter had often reflected with indignation that it was a melancholy thing to see a hundred thousand pounds' worth of property in the hands of a giddy little woman who had no proper respect for her treasure. Why, that very evening Sir Peter had seen a priceless necklace lying on the dressing-room table with no one present to guard it. On the whole, though, it is doubtful whether the Baronet would have entered into Dick Lyster's scheme had not the Hussar plied him with a glass or two of port in excess of his usual ration. This set him babbling about the obstinacy and foolishness of women—subjects upon which country gentlemen are always very eloquent when they have well drunk. By the end of an hour he was almost game for anything, and kept chuckling to himself in anticipation of the triumph he should enjoy when he heard his Amy "screaming and wringing her hands all over the place." He was imparting his vision of this bliss to Dick, when the butler entered to say that my lady's maid had a message to deliver; and next moment Patty Raggles came in to announce that Lady Charmeigh felt indisposed and had gone up to her room, so that she begged the gentlemen to excuse her for not meeting them at tea in the drawing-room. As Dick and Sir Peter were the only gentlemen in question, this incident was not of much consequence; but it surprised Sir Peter to see Patty, whom he believed to be still away on her holiday.

"Why, Patty, I did not know you had returned," said he.

"Yes, Sir Peter. I came back this evening," rejoined the damsel, with a curtesy.

"Home air seems to have done you good; your cheeks are like roses. Well, I suppose you heard of the great burglary that took place here while you were gone?"

"Yes, Sir Peter; it gave me quite a turn. O, those burglars! only to think of their wicked impudence! And then that safe, too, who'd ever have thought it would have let itself be burst open? But you see, Sir Peter, you and I was in the wrong, and my lady was right after all."

Sir Peter pulled a face, and Dick Lyster smiled.

"I never much liked that girl," remarked the Baronet when Patty left the room; but Dick, making the most of his opportunity, observed that it was time for Sir Peter to be up and stirring, since his servants were criticising his judgment. Then abruptly:

"But why not act this very night? The occasion is most propitious. Amy has gone to bed early, the maid will be busy chattering about her holiday adventure in the servants' hall. I am sure that jewelry will be lying about in heaps on the tables."

"But how am I to act to-night?" asked Sir Peter, feeling a little of his valor ooze out of him.

"Why, we'll sit up until all the household are in bed, and then go into the garden and see if it isn't possible for you to effect an entrance through some window or unlocked door that will give you an opportunity of testing the vigilance of your servants."

"Isn't it rather a queer thing to do? I think I should look very foolish if caught climbing through a window with a ladder. Why, one of the servants might send a charge of shot into my back."

"No fear; we'll manage so as not to be seen."

"But, I say, don't you feel it's rather a cold night? Shouldn't we do well to put the thing off till we have matured our plans?"

Sir Peter was evidently trying to back out, but Dick Lyster would not allow him to do this. "No," said he, giving him a slap on the thigh; "I want to see you wearing the domestic crown again. I'll make a potentate of you in your own despite. No funking now."

A couple of hours later, when midnight had struck, and all Charmeigh Hall was hushed in repose, two figures might have been seen groping their way like malefactors in the obscurity of the garden. It was a very dark night, indeed, and Sir Peter's teeth chattered partly from cold and partly from nervousness, though he had sought to steady himself with pretty deep potations. Dick Lyster was grinning like a Cheshire cat. As he made for the shed where the gardeners kept their ladders, he could not help laughing at the remarkable aspect of Sir Peter, who, to equip himself for his burglary, had put on a thick overcoat, furred gloves, and a flannel cricket-cap, which he had tied down on his head with a silk pocket-handkerchief, intended to protect his ears. He could no more have run, if chevied, than a wine-tun can gallop. However, there were impulses of resolution in his demeanor, and he kept on repeating that he was doing all this solely to assert his dignity. "A man must be a man," said he dolefully, as his teeth chattered.

A ladder was soon found, and the two men carrying it across the garden with stealthy steps, planted it under the window of Lady Charmeigh's dressing-room. Dick, who was a nimble gymnast, then made haste to climb the ladder, and on reaching the top tried the window, which by an almost miraculous coincidence proved to be open. This Dick announced, when he had slid down like a monkey, and the news exasperated Sir Peter, who saw in it another proof of his wife's incurable giddiness, for he never suspected that Dick himself had unfastened the bolt that afternoon. "Why, Amy must be mad to act in this way less than a month after the burglary, and a window open in November, too?"

"Such a woman deserves to lose her jewels," concurred the hussar feelingly.

"She never deserved to have any, and I say, when I've got them, I've a good mind to lodge them in the bank; that will tease her."

"Right you are; your thoughts are those of a sage. But look sharp now."

"That ladder seems a very tall one," observed Sir Peter, with his front foot on the lowest rung. "But mind you, I am only doing this strange thing out of regard for my dignity."

"Of course; and I'll mount guard below from the same feeling," laughed Dick. "Up you go."

The ascent of Sir Peter up the latter did not prove such an easy and graceful affair as Dick's had been. It rather resembled the progress of a stout bear up a pole. Twice the corpulent Baronet paused and listened to the sad soughing of the wind through the chestnut trees of his park, for it seemed as though he heard voices mocking him. Once he uttered an exclamation on feeling the ladder creak; and when he got to the top and placed his hand on the cold stone of the window-sill a shiver ran through his limbs. Here a little piece of high gymnastics became necessary, for the problem to be solved was how to get into the room without any noise. To an agile man this would have been easy; but to a fat one it was a thing of trouble, causing wheezes and puffings, besides profuse perspiration. Intent on his dignified purpose, though, Sir Peter made his best exertions, and contrived somehow to land himself into the dressing-room on his back with a soft thump like that of a bag of linen for the wash. Luckily, the carpet was thick, and the noise woke no echoes. Crawling to his legs in the dim light—for there were embers of a fire still aglow in the grate—Sir Peter leaned out of the window, and signalled to Dick that it was "all right" by waving his handkerchief. Then he thrust a match against a red coal, and proceeded to light one of the candles on the chimney-piece. This was a delicate moment. If Lady Charmeigh saw the light through her bedroom door, which stood ajar, the whole enterprise would break down. But her ladyship was sound asleep. Sir Peter satisfied himself about that by entering her room on tiptoe and listening to her breathing, soft and regular as an infant's.

"Foolish woman," he repeated, as he stood by the bed. "Here, now, if I were a real burglar, I could kill her outright."

The thought made him shudder, but it also impelled him with the desire to do his work quickly and to do it well. He caught sight of himself in a glass, and felt that he looked like a real burglar, insomuch that he was startled by the expression of rapine imprinted on his sleek face. It is a fact that the countenances of men reflect their occupations pretty vividly. Sir Peter exhibited quite a burglarious dexterity of touch in running his hands over the toilet-table in the bedroom to find whether there were any valuables there. He durst not bring a light into the room, and it was some moments before he could accustom his eyes to the semi-obscurity. When he did so he perceived that there were no trinkets at all lying about. The only thing on the table was a gold *portebonheur*, with the key of the famous safe attached to it by a chain. Sir Peter looked into the wardrobe, whose door was open—same result. Not an article of any sort that thieves would care to take was visible. "Why," soliloquized the disgusted Baronet, "I shouldn't wonder if, now that the secret of the safe is exploded, Amy had taken to lodging her jewels there just to spite me."

He returned noiselessly to the dressing-room, and there sure enough saw the globular strong-box standing in its appointed corner, and revolving with that quiet purring sound which Lady Charmeigh had lately abhorred.

Now the sight profoundly astonished Sir Peter, for he was not aware that the safe had been mended. It moreover incensed him, for that Lady Charmeigh had entered into communication with the safe-maker without telling him anything about it was evidently a slight upon that marital dignity concerning which he was so sensitive. As Sir Peter seldom went into his wife's dressing-room, he had not seen the strong box for more than a fortnight, and he now began to walk round and round it, examining it with the stealthy attention of a caged animal inspecting some strange thing. It had been perfectly mended, and looked from its massiveness as if it could defy the attacks of any gang of cracksmen.

"Well, of all the perverse, incomprehensible, wayward creatures, women are the worst!" exclaimed Sir Peter. "Only to think of the jewels being in that safe now. Amy has forgotten to lock up her key, though, which is just like her. I'll open the box, and as sure as I'm alive every diamond shall be put into the bank to-morrow. We shall see what you think of your precious cleverness then, my lady!"

Sir Peter chuckled in malicious glee, and stole back to the bedroom. As he returned with the bracelet and key, he looked out of the window and saw Dick Lyster smoking a cigar patiently at the foot of the ladder. It had been arranged that Dick should remain at this post until the burglary had been consummated, and then go off to bed, leaving the ladder standing under the open window to frighten the servants in the morning. Sir Peter, on his side, was to return to his own quarters without, of course, passing through the window again. So confident did the Baronet now feel of success that, to spare Dick the trouble of remaining out longer in the cold, he dropped his pocket handkerchief into the garden, which was the preconcerted signal that everything had gone off well, and that Dick might depart. Having done this, Sir Peter, who felt hot from perspiration and excitement, doffed his overcoat, coat, and gloves, and betook himself to business, key in hand.

"Let me see, to-day is Thursday," said he, "so 'Jupiter' will be the word." He touched the knob on the stand with his foot, and the globe became motionless. A few turns of the disk at the top of the globe brought up the letters of the word "Jupiter," and then Sir Peter inserted his key into a cavity between the body and the dot of the middle letter *i*. But at this moment an appalling event occurred. A Roman candle bursting up under the marauder's nose exploded with a deafening bang, the alarm began to ring like mad, and at the same time Sir Peter felt his hand tight imprisoned in a steel loop which crushed him with bruising force.

"Help!" bawled the miserable man, for the clasp hurt him, besides which his hair and eyebrows had been singed by the powder of the Roman candle, and he was frightened out of his wits. "Help! murder! thieves! Hie, Amy!"

Lady Charmeigh, unable to distinguish the sound of her husband's voice, had jumped out of bed in a panic and run into the passage, where she was uttering piercing shrieks. These, joined to the maddened vociferations of Sir Peter, who was the more scarified from being in the dark, as he had upset the candle and could not understand what was happening to him, speedily roused the whole household. There was a stampede of feet down corridors, an opening and shutting of doors, and then presently Sir Peter heard the sharp, firm voice of Patty Raggles saying:

"Oh, it's a burglar caught in your ladyship's new trap. We needn't be afraid of him. Just let me teach him a lesson with this riding whip. Come along, John, Thomas, Charles, all of you."

The door of the dressing-room was thrown back and a curious procession filed in—the butler and footman in shirt-sleeves and trousers, the maids in their smocks and flannel petticoats; behind all, Lady Charmeigh, wrapped in a *peignoir*, and trembling. But Patty Raggles, with a quite manly courage, strode in front, brandishing one of her mistress' riding-whips. Sir Peter had become silent and sheepish, expecting to be released, and he turned a bewildered countenance toward his servants, forgetting that it was impossible for them to recognize him with his blackened face, to say nothing of the cricket-cap and handkerchief which converted him into a villanous guy. Besides, the noise of the alarm, which continued to ring twice as loud as any telegraph bell, drowned the sound of his voice, when he piteously ejaculated:

"It's I!"

"You, is it?" answered Patty Raggles, roughly, and, to the horror and fury of Sir Peter, the strong-armed wench began belaboring the chubbiest parts of his lower man with terrific slashing cuts. "There, take that," she said, "and that, and that! Now a few on the hands to warm you, this cold weather. Ah, you don't like it, I see! well, try another dose on the legs—whish, whish!"

It was in vain that poor fat Sir Peter leaped, danced, yelled, cursed; the more he roared, the more was the natural sound of his voice altered; and, meanwhile, his gambols were so ludicrous, he was evidently suffering such exquisite pain from his whipping, that the spectators could not forbear to laugh. Lady Charmeigh, whose risible faculties were easily stirred, was the first to set the example, and though she said, "Enough, Patty, enough," she could not check her tittering. The servants, emboldened by her conduct, fairly guffawed to see a rogue, as they imagined, get his full deserts, and so the comedy might have continued some time longer had not Dick Lyster suddenly appeared on the scene in a dressing-gown, and exclaimed:

"I say, what's all this uproar? Why, it's Sir Peter you are thrashing!"

"Sir Peter!" cried Patty, falling back, and she let the whip drop.

"Sir Peter!" chorused the other servants, in awe-stricken accents.

"Sir Peter!" exclaimed Lady Charmeigh, stupefied, and she advanced as if doubting whether this were not a hoax. "Why, how come you to be here?" she cried, as soon as she could recognize her lord.

"Loose me from this, will you?" roared the Baronet, ferocious from pain and rage.

"Why, how are you caught?" said Lady Charmeigh. "Let me see. I don't know if I remember how this catch can be unfastened. Do you, Patty?"

"Yes, my lady; I'll loose Sir Peter," said Patty, bustling forward. "And, Oh, Sir, I am so sorry for the whipping I gave yer. I do hope your poor body isn't sore."

"Out of my sight, you drab!" thundered the Baronet, as soon as he was released. "Never let me see you again; and all you others clear off this instant. What are you all gaping at?"

Sir Peter was quite wild, and the room was cleared without more ado; but as soon as the husband and wife were alone together, Lady Charmeigh became grave and said severely:

"Now will you please explain to me how you came to cause such a scandalous scene?"

"O bother!" groaned Sir Peter. "Fetch me some arnica; I feel as if my wrist were coming off. And, oh, mercy, look at my hands and legs!"

III.

From that hour Sir Peter Charmeigh was a subjugated man. Not that her ladyship made an ungenerous use of her triumph, for she was, indeed, very good-natured in trying to salve the wounds inflicted on her husband's self-esteem, not less than in embrocating those which his limbs had endured. Knowing how painful it must be to him to see in the house servants who had been witnesses of his discomfiture, she dismissed most of them, and would even have found a new situation for Patty Raggles had Sir Peter insisted on it; but he did not, for the wench became meek and hysterical, vowing she was ready to die of grief for having whipped so good a master, and promising to throw herself into a pond if she were discharged. Sir Peter told her to stay and be hanged; and he appeared to be insensible to his wife's blandishments, though she really did all that a loving wife can do to atone for her share in his misadventure. But the story had, of course, leaked out, and Sir Peter was chaffed by his country friends in a style most galling to the pride of a consequential man. Wherever he went—whether to cover-side, magistrates' meetings, agricultural shows—he was jocosely asked whether Lady Charmeigh's diamonds were safe, and some ill natured wag had the baseness to send her ladyship anonymously a new riding-whip with a facetious inscription on its gold knob. To make matters worse, Sir Peter began to have misgivings that the whole affair of the sham burglary had been planned between Dick Lyster and Patty Raggles on purpose to get him punished and to make him ridiculous. Lady Vilious, Amy's good friend, set this rumor about, and caused much annoyance to Lady Charmeigh by so doing. Her ladyship roundly taxed the hussar with the imputed lreak, but he denied with so much earnestness, word-of-honoring, and so forth, that there was no option but to believe him. However, Lady Charmeigh deemed it good policy to remove her safe out of Sir Peter's sight. It was stowed away in the lumber-room, and the Baronet never made any allusions to it. It was noticed also that his interest in machinery perceptibly declined from that time.

Everything passes, even rancor among married couples; and so it befell that, after a few months, the recollection of his trouble grew less intensely bitter in Sir Peter's mind, and matters ran again in their old grooves at Charmeigh Hall. No more burglars were heard of, and Lady Charmeigh, trusting in her good star, fell to thinking that since her diamonds had braved such desperate raids, they must bear charmed lives. But in this she was wrong, and it was her destiny to go through a much more trying experience than the first two which had fallen to her lot.

Spring came, and with it the London season, when the Charmeighs were wont to remove to their town house in Park-lane. The day fixed for their departure was a fine sunny Monday in April; but the sudden illness of one of Sir Peter's uncles obliged the Baronet to go and spend a few days with the relative, and so Lady Charmeigh went to London alone. Her servants accompanied her, and with them Patty Raggles. Now, Patty had been in unaccountably low spirits for some weeks past, and her mistress was very anxious about her. There were times when the girl was almost flighty with causeless gayiety, and others when she appeared smitten with hypochondria, so sullen was she and peevish. Lady Charmeigh was good-hearted a little woman not to endeavor with all her might to ascertain the motives for her favorite servant's depression of spirits; and she had ended by eliciting, after some trouble, that Patty was in love with one of the footmen who had been discharged after the affair with Sir Peter. This man, said Patty, had thoughts of emigrating to America, and she wanted to go with him, though the idea of expatriation made her wretched. There were perhaps other causes for her sadness which she did not mention; anyhow, on the evening of her arrival in London, Patty startled her mistress by saying that she meant to leave her situation in three days. Her manner was agitated, and she seemed ready to cry; but she did not actually shed tears, only whimpered.

"Well, but, Patty, this is surely a foolish resolution. Why does not Charles Brown stay in England? I tole you he should have money until he had procured himself a new situation."

"It's all of no use, my lady. He wants to go to America to better himself. He's not the sort to be a footman, my lady; such work isn't good enough for him."

"But he may go further to fare worse—you should tell him that; and in any case, you, Patty, ought not to leave this country until you are sure of finding a home elsewhere."

"I can't let Charles go alone, my lady; he would be taking up with some other girl if I did."

"I am afraid you will regret acting with this precipitation."

"Perhaps I shall, my lady; but it can't be helped. What I'm most sorry for is the leaving you." Hereupon Patty Raggles burst out crying in earnest.

Lady Charmeigh could not see laughter without laughing, nor tears without weeping; so when her maid left the room she sat down to have a good cry, all comfortably by herself. This by and by produced a reaction under the form of a desire to go to bed and put disagreeables out of mind. But when her ladyship was undressed the sleepiness wore off, and she felt rather inclined to have a cup of tea and read a novel. So she wrapped herself in her dressing-robe, and sat down in a cozy armchair opposite the fire, with an amusing book on her lap. It was then nearly midnight, and Patty, after having set the tea-tray, retired to rest. Presently Lady Charmeigh heard the servants putting the chain to the hall-door, and the house became silent. By this time the amusing book had produced the usual effect, and Lady Charmeigh felt drowsy. She closed her eyes, and sank into an agreeable doze.

This had lasted, perhaps, an hour, when she was abruptly roused by a sensation of somebody being present in the room. She opened her eyes, and, to her speechless stupefaction, saw two tall men standing before her with crape masks on their faces. To scream was impossible in the hideous terror she felt; she could only rise to her feet and murmur inarticulately, while her eyes were distended to twice their natural size. Her brain swam, and she had a vague idea that she was dreaming; but this thought was soon dispelled.

"Now, ma'am, we're not going to hurt you if you don't make a noise," said one of the men rather kindly than gruffly. "If you scream, see this;" and he held up the naked blade of a razor.

"But what do you want?" faltered Lady Charmeigh, who was blanched of all color, and could hardly speak her words.

"Your jewels, ma'am. Give us your keys. Sit quiet, and we shan't touch you."

"Never!" cried Lady Charmeigh, with the courage of the desperate. "You are wicked men. You may kill me if you like; but, O, help, O!"

As she opened her mouth to cry, one of the men brusquely encircled her with his arms, and held her tight, while the other pressed a handkerchief over her mouth and nostrils. There was chloroform on the handkerchief, and so much of it that Lady Charmeigh gasped. For a few seconds she attempted to struggle; but then her lips relaxed, she drew a deep breath, and sank back unconscious. Her aggressors gently deposited her on the floor.

When Lady Charmeigh came to herself, after an interval of time which she could not reckon, she found she had been robbed of every valuable she possessed. The Charmeigh diamonds were gone to the last one; the very rings on her fingers had been taken; her watch, the silver-gilt mountings of her dressing-case—all had disappeared. The plunder carried off was immense, and the burglary had been managed in the most orderly fashion. The house was as tranquil as if no deed of evil had been perpetrated there.

It remained tranquil, for Lady Charmeigh made